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ABSTRACT

This exploratory study analyzed the incidence and nature of barriers experienced by applicants wishing to adopt special needs children, defined as: "children who are older, have physical disabilities, are emotionally troubled, or are mentally retarded. Many are Black or Hispanic. Some are brothers and sisters who need a home together." Between mid-January and the end of June 1984, approximately 13,000 questionnaires were mailed to affiliates of the North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC), foster parents associations, and other groups and individuals. Usable surveys were returned by 535 respondents, of whom 55.7 percent were identified as having experienced a homestudy barrier. Of the 191 white married respondents, 125 experienced a homestudy barrier. Consistent with other investigative findings, Blacks and single females and males clearly encountered homestudy barriers. Very few respondents expressed interest in adopting mentally retarded children or those with severe or even moderate disabilities. Almost 60 percent were unwilling to adopt a child older than 9 years. It is concluded that there is a mismatch between available children offered by agencies and what most respondents apparently want. Identified limitations of the study include the inability to identify the number of persons who believe they actually experienced a homestudy barrier. In addition, it is suggested that investigators may need to study number and race of staff available to prepare homestudies, examine eligibility criteria, and study application forms. More than half the document is made up of statistical tables displaying the study data. The NACAC questionnaire is appended. (JW)

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BARRIERS TO ADOPTION OF SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN: A NATIONAL STUDY*

Presented to

NATIONAL ADOPTION EXCHANGE
1218 Chestnut Street
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and

NORTH AMERICAN COUNCIL ON ADOPTABLE CHILDREN
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BARRIERS TO ADOPTION OF SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN:

A NATIONAL STUDY

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

"Every child has a right to a permanent home." This belief permeates the adoption parent movement and is widely shared by human service professionals. Legislation in recent years has reinforced a commitment to permanency for children whose parents cannot or will not provide the requisite parenting skills and essential caring and protection.

Many children who enter foster care return home; however, too many never return to their birth parents. The remain in foster family care, group homes, or residential facilities until they reach majority. Parental rights have not been terminated, although efforts to reunify them with their parents may have been negligent or nonexistent. Some children have their parental rights terminated and become eligible for adoption, permanent foster care, or independent living. While infants are quickly and easily adopted, other children are not as readily adopted unless special efforts are made to recruit, assess, and prepare prospective adoptive parents.

Children who share certain common characteristics were once considered "hard to place" or "undadoptable" but are now perceived to be "children with special needs" or "waiting children." Special needs children belong to minority groups; are older; are physically, mentally, or emotionally handicapped; or are a sibling group of three or more children who should be placed together (1). Recent historic legislation, the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-272), specifies that "a child shall not be considered a child with special needs unless:

1) The State has determined that the child cannot or should not be returned to the home of his parents; and

2) The State had first determined (A) that there exists with respect to the child a specific factor or condition (such as his ethnic background, age, or membership in a minority or sibling group, or the presence of factors such as medical conditions or physical, mental, or emotional handicaps) because of which it is reasonable to conclude that such child cannot be placed with adoptive parents without providing adoption assistance, and (B) that, except, where it would be against the best interest of the child because of such factors as the existence of significant emotional ties with prospective parents while in the care of such parents as a foster child, a reasonable, but unsuccessful, effort has been made to place the child with appropriate adoptive parents without providing adoption assistance under this section (Sec. 473(a)(4)(c).

Barriers to permanency for children placed in foster care exist prior to social service agency involvement and, subsequently when the "unfit" parent becomes a client. Reasons are many: overworked staff, untrained staff, too few staff; declassification of social work positions; "unwilling", "unresponsive" parents; inappropriate service plans; no service plans; insufficient funds for social services. The lack of well implemented solutions and necessary preventive measures have been well identified and have resulted in important legislatin (e.g., P.L. 96-272), numerous documental exposes (e.g., Children Without Homes), and action to make the social service system responsive (e.g, Children In Placement projects and external foster care review legislation in some states).

Barriers to adoption of special needs children exist when children who can be legally freed for adoption become "orphans of the living." (2) Agencies may not have identified children whose parental rights should be terminated. They may delay in preparing cases for court. Often there are insufficient agency attorneys or legal counsel assigns such work a low priority. Judges may return cases to agencies to provide additional

services if agencies and their workers fail to adequately document their services in the case record. Some judges are philosophically opposed to termination regardless of the merits of the case. Without termination of parental rights children with special needs cannot be adopted. It is, however, beyond the scope of this project to delineate the extent of barriers to permanency or efforts to reduce or eliminate such barriers. Instead the focus is on barriers to adoption after parental rights have been terminated.

Termination of parental rights for the children who now wait is no guarantee of adoption. Agencies need to recruit prospective adoptive parents, conduct and complete adoption home studies, match applicants with waiting special needs children, and then place the children and finalize the adoption process, including the provision of post-placement services. Barriers to matching prospective parents with waiting special needs children may exist at each critical step: (1) recruitment, (2) completing a home study, (3) matching applicant with waiting child or more often matching a waiting child with only the content of the home study, (4) placement of child, and (5) post-placement services to facilitate the bonding of child with parent.

Permanency for children is an essential right; every child should have a family that provides loving, caring, and constant care. This study focuses on one aspect of a continuum of services for children who have been placed in foster care. Those children who cannot return to their birth parents and have had their parental rights terminated now wait for families

--a permanent family. Barriers to adopton reduce an essential resource--willing, capable parents. It has been estimated that $1.3 billion would be saved over a ten-year period if 10,000 special needs children were placed in permanent adoptive homes, even if every one received an adoption subsidy of $1,200 annually (3). Financial savings is but one factor. Permanency for children is the major factor.

The purpose of this study was to conduct an exploratory study to ascertain the extent applicants to adopt special needs children experience one or more homestudy barriers - from not being able to obtain a homestudy to having an approved homestudy but no child placement.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Several studies in recent years have documented the failure of child welfare systems to adequately provide permanency planning for children in their care. The National Commission on Children in Need of Parents set forth eight major findings and an equal number of recommendations. Major findings were as follows:

1. Approximately 500,000 American children are presently in foster care.

2. The courts are often the cause of children unnecessarily spending years in foster care.

3. The way in which Federal aid is provided encourages helping children in foster care and discourages finding them permanent homes.

4. Foster care is administered by staffs so overburdened, poorly paid and often unprepared professionally that they are ill equiped to free children for adoption and find homes for them.

5. Inadequate support payments to foster parents contribute to frequent turnover of homes and thus mean moves for foster children.

6. Taxpayers and contributors to charity are not getting dollar value for foster care spending in this country.

7. Children virtually become lost in foster care.

8. There is in America no cohesive "system" of foster care worthy of the name (4).

Major recommendations include state legislation that will address barriers to permanence including requiring a plan that will move children from foster care to adoption. Federal incentives should be redirected to finding and placing children in permanent homes. There should be mandatory, periodic review to oversee case planning. The use of media and other promotional techniques should be more extensively and creatively used to alert people to the availability of children for adoption (5).

In a report issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in October, 1980, the author reported that "the data available concerning the characteristics of adoptive parents are very scarce and incomplete" (6). He also noted that over 100,000 children who are legally free for adoption have not yet been adopted. Many of these children are without adoption services (7).

Major issues in the delivery of adoption services, according to the HHS report, include (1) increasing the pool of adoptive parents, (2) enhancing interagency cooperation, (3) and changing the agency role in adoption in selected areas such as providing support services to adoptive parents. Strategies for increasing the number of prospective parents

include (1) recruitment, (2) use of "non-traditional" groups such as foster parents and single parents, (3) "removal of agency requirements of adoptive parents which are not predictive of outcomes and 'screen out' potential adoptors," and (4) the creation of support mechanisms for adoptive parents of special needs children (8).

On May 24, 1983, The Conference on Black Adoptions was held in Washington, D.C. (9). This conference, sponsored by the National Black Child Development Institute, was intended to discuss a serious problem: "the inability of the child welfare system to provide adoptive families for the growing numbers of Black children without permanent homes" (10). Among many important topics discussed was the concern of agency racism directed to black children and prospective black adoptive families. As reported in the conference report, Laverda Jessamy, an adoptive parent, "told the audience that agency policies are at fault for turning prospective parents away. 'It's the "We'll call you back" and the "I'll send the forms' conversations that keep kids in the system more surely than any other element'" (11). There was consensus among the participants "that there is racism in the structure and staffing of the child welfare system" (12).

The National Urban League in 1979 published the final report on Facilitating Black Adoptions (13). This report in addressing problems of minority adoptions found that the following problems still exist for black families and children: "Prohibitive effect of agency procedures, such as, the use of white middle-class standards to evaluate families, high fees, caseworkers' inabilities to perceive black children as adoptable" (14). Festinger's study, "Why Some Choose Not to Adopt Through Agencies",

published in 1972 by the New York Metropolitan Applied Research Center was cited in the Urban League report to show that Festinger "polled a sample of black adoption applicants who had not completed the adoption process, and found that they tended to attribute their withdrawal to agency procedures and rules. They said they withdrew because there were too many forms, interviews, and personal questions" (15).

The Urban League's report also addressed the issue of enlarging the pool of potential parents. "The available pool of potential black parents could be enlarged, if singles were considered as viable adoptive parents" (16). The study indicates that "agencies generally have not permitted single individuals to adopt. Most agencies have considered singles as a last resort and only for hard-to-place children" (17).

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Design

The unit of analyses were persons who had experienced one or more homestudy barriers in their efforts to adopt special needs children. Homestudy barriers were defined to include the following:

(1) Application not submitted to adopt and not related to a personal and voluntary decision;

(2) Application to adopt withdrawn for reasons not related to a personal and voluntary decision;

(3) Adoption homestudy request rejected;

(4) Rejected for adoption after beginning homestudy;

(5) Awaiting a homestudy for a period longer than six months;

(6) Homestudy begun but not completed within six months;

(7) Homestudy completed but not approved within six months of completion; and

(8) Homestudy approved but children not placed within six months of approval.

Special needs children or "waiting children" were defined as "children who are older, have physical disabilities, are emotionally troubled, or are mentally retarded. Many are Black or Hispanic. Some are brothers and sisters who need a home together." This definition was included in the questionnaire introduction written by Laurie Flynn, formerly Executive Director of the North American Council On Adoptable Children and Marlene Piasecki, Director of the National Adoption Exchange (see Appendix A). Foreign born children regardless of condition or disability were not considered special needs children for purposes of this study.

Sample

The population of persons who have experienced homestudy barriers in order to adopt a special needs child is almost impossible to identify. The inability to obtain lists of applicants who have experienced homestudy barriers from social service agencies is limited because of an understandable policy of confidentiality. Further, some potential applicants may never obtain access to an agency other than to make a phone call, write a letter of inquiry, or attend an informational session. Often, in these situations, names may not be obtained by agency personnel. In brief, there was no systematic way of collecting applicant names.

This exploratory, descriptive study is, of necessity, a non-random sample due to inability to define the population under study. A cross-sectional survey of applicants was made in the spring, 1984. It was believed that selected associations and organizations would have access to persons who had or were experiencing homestudy barriers. Accordingly, the following were identified as appropriate resources for obtaining responses from the study sample:

(1) North American Council on Adoptable Children, Washington, D.C.,

(2) National Adoption Exchange, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,

(3) State foster parent associations, and

(4) State and local adoptive parent associations.

The North American Council on Adoptable Children works with nearly 500 local parent groups, receives thousands of phone calls and letters, sponsors many workshops each year, and through its board, regional representatives, and state contact people has contact with hundreds and perhaps thousands of adoptive parents and individuals interested in adopting special needs children. Their extensive mailing list and network of parent groups was designated to receive packets of questionnaires for distribution to eligible persons.

The National Adoption Exchange maintains a list of regional and state exchanges, has relationships with numerous agencies throughout the United States, and has a listing of prospective adoptive parents of special needs children. Their extensive mailing list was also utilized to reach potential respondents.

Finally, the many state foster parent associations were considered another resource for potential respondents.

Procedures

To alert adoptive parent groups and friends of the North American Council on Adoptable Children that a national study on homestudy barriers was planned, a short article appeared in the September/October 1983 of Adoptalk. In the News, a newsletter of the National Adoption Exchange, a brief report appeared on the national study.

Approximatley 13,000 questionnaires were mailed beginning on January 13, 1984 through June, 1984. Questionnaires were sent to the following NACAC groups and individuals: Board/staff network (510), non-member groups (3,060), member groups (1,850), TEAM members (1,425), national office (300), with an additional 200 sent to the staff advocacy coordinator, and another 100 sent to two board members at their request. NACAC staff, board, parent groups, and others on their mailing list received a total of 7,445 questionnaires; 257 were returned for a 3.5 percent respnse rate. Questionnaires were sent in packets of 10 or 20 depending on the size of the adoptive parent groups and in packets of 5 to TEAM members. Each packet included a letter from the former Executive Director of NACAC (see Appendix B) and an informational form for persons receiving the questionnaire (see Appendix C).

To reach foster parents and their network of friends, packets of 20 were mailed to 47 state foster parent associations (excluding Hawaii and Alaska). The Iowa State Foster Parent Association, with which the author is a board member, received 140 questionnaires. They were distributed to the co-presidents and regional vice-presidents at a quarterly board meeting

after an explanation of the study's importance by the author. Twelve questionnaires were returned for a response rate of 9 percent.

Each of the other 47 state foster parent associations received a packet which included a letter from the co-presidents of the Iowa Foster Parent Association (see Appendix D), 20 questionnaires, a letter from the former Executive Director of NACAC, and an informational form. Twenty-one questionnaires were returned for a 2.2 percent response rate.

The National Adoption Exchange and their mailing list of minority resources and exchange directors received 3,010 questionnaires; 105 were returned for a response rate of 3 percent. The National Office received 150 and each of the others received a packet of 10 questionnaires including a letter from the Director of the National Adoption Exchange (see Appendix E).

In response to phone calls and letters requesting additional questionnaires, questionnaires were mailed to individuals (60), state Departments of Human Services (465), exchanges (690), voluntary agencies (40), minority agencies (50), and adoptive parent associations (25).

A follow-up letter (see Appendix F) was mailed on March 6, 1984 to all adoptive parent groups associated with NACAC and a similar letter was mailed to foster parent groups in April, 1984. The News Brief published in the News of the National Adoption Exchange of March, 1984 served as a reminder to all the exchange directors and minority resources. A total of 535 usable questionnaires were returned by the cutoff date of July 1, 1984.

Instrumentation

A paper-and-pencil, 34-item, self-report questionnaire was developed (see Appendix A) for completion by eligible subjects. A preliminary questionnaire was developed in conjunction with Laurie Flynn, then Executive Director of the North American Council on Adoptable Children. In cooperation with Clara Barksdale, then Director of the New York Council on Adoptable Children, a revised version was developed and pretestested on a small sample of clients associated with the New York COAC. Subsequently, the questionnaire was revised numerous times in consultation with Marlene Piasecki, Director of the National Adoption Exchange, staff members, and consultants to the Exchange.

FINDINGS

Study Sample

To achieve the purposes of this study respondent were divided into four categories as indicated by questionnaire responses. The first category included all respondents who reported that they had met one or more homestudy barriers as shown by responses to Questions 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, and 12 (see Appendix A).

The second category included those respondents who did not report any homestudy barrier. It is difficult to understand why this group returned completed questionnaires. One may speculate that questionnaires were returned without respondents having read the instructions. Some may have returned it in order to indicate that not all applicants to adopt have homestudy barriers. Some perhaps returned it because they were asked to by friends or others involved in the adoption and foster parent movements.

Others may have completed the questionnaire in order to receive information from the North American Council on Adoptable Children and/or the National Adoption Exchange (see Q-32 and Q-33 of the questionnaire, Appendix A).

The third category includes respondents who reported no homestudy barrier but who have been approved or believe will be approved to adopt but have not yet had placement of children. This group also has not met a homestudy barrier except as it may pertain to length of time waiting after approval of homestudy. The final category includes those respondents who are waiting for homestudies but believe they will not or may not receive a homestudy or will not be approved to adopt.

Demographic Characteristics. Tables 1A through 1E detail the marital status and race by family income of all respondents (N=535) and then by the four categories indicated above. A review of Table 1A reveals that 68.7 percent (N=366) are married. Just over 17 percent are single females, 6.4 percent are divorced females, and 4.7 percent are single males. There were few Hispanic respondents (N=8) of whom seven were married. Most respondents were white and also married (N=303). Of the black respondents most were married (N=33) but 21 were single and 8 were divorced. There was a total of 423 white, 67 black, 8 Hispanic, and 23 other racial/ethnic groups or combinations who responded not including 11 who did not provide sufficient information. Family income is also included. Only six percent made less than $10,000. The largest percentage (18 percent) made between $30 and $39 thousand followed by 18 percent who made between $20 and $24 thousand. The mean age for all males was 35.2 (SD - 7.0) with a range

between 21 and 62. The mean age for all females was 33.8 (SD - 6.2) with a range between 21 and 64.

Children Living in Home

The number of children living in respondents home during the period respondents applied to adopt is found in Table 2. For all respondents, almost 50 percent had one or more children living at home. Only for those respondents who reported that they were waiting for a homestudy and thought they might not obtain a homestudy was there a marked difference in number of children living in the home. Of the 24 respondents, 70.8 percent indicated that one or more children lived in the home. Most families had not previously adopted. Only 64 families or 12 percent of all respondents had adopted one or more children.

State of Residence

Table 3 lists place of residence during period of application to adopt for all respondents, for each of the four categories, and by reported barriers for each state. The last set of columns indicates the number of respondents who reported one or more barriers in relation to the percentage of respondents who completed questionnaires. For example, 8 questionnaires were received from Alabama of which 5 reported at least one barrier for a barrier rate of 62.5 percent. The number of barriers was determined by adding responses from the category "Barrier Met" and "Waiting for Homestudy".

The largest percentage of respondents came from California and Pennsylvania followed by New York, Iowa, Virginia, Ohio, and Illinois. The large response from Iowa is related to the investigator's association with

the Iowa Adoptive and Foster Parents Association and their willingness to provide extensive distribution of the questionnaire. Questionnaires were not mailed to Alaska or Hawaii. The few respondents from Montana and South Dakota returned questionnaires for which no barrier was reported.

Homestudy Experiences

Three questions were initially asked regarding homestudy experiences: (1) "Have you ever been turned down or turned away by one or more agencies in an effort to get a homestudy completed?"; (2) "Are you experiencing delays in getting a homestudy or having it completed?"; and (3) "Have you completed a homestudy but have not yet had a placement?". After obtaining information regarding characteristics of children interested in adopting, additional questions were asked regarding homestudy experiences: (1) "Have you ever contacted an agency but did not follow up by submitting an application?"; (2) "Have you ever withdrawn your application to adopt a child?"; (3) Has your request for an adoption homestudy ever been rejected?"; and, (4) After beginning a homestudy have you ever been rejected for adoption?" (Q-9 through Q-12).

The findings for each of these questions for all respondents (N=535) and by each of the four categories is found in Table 4. In order to categorize the respondents into four separate groups it was necessary to do an analysis of each of the seven questions. Respondents were placed into the category "Barriers Met" if they answered "Yes" to any of the seven questions. In order to be placed into the category "Barrier Not Met", respondents had to answer "No" to each of the seven questions except that if they did answer "Yes" their response indicated that the reason for not

obtaining a placement, or not submitting an application, or withdrawing an application to adopt a child was exclusively a personal decision on the part of the respondent not to pursue adoption at this time. The third category, "Approved and Waiting", includes all respondents who had obtained a homestudy or expected to obtain a homestudy and expected the homestudy to be approved or, if approved, expected to receive a child for placement. The fourth category, "Waiting for Homestudy", includes all those respondents who were waiting for homestudies, waiting for homestudy approval, or waiting for placement but believed they would not or were not sure they would receive a homestudy or receive a placement.

It should be noted that question 1 is a general question and can be duplicated by responses to questions 9 - 12. Positive responses to Questions 9 and 10 do not necessarily indicate a barrier.

Characteristics of Children

Respondents were asked to indicate selected characteristics of children they would consider adopting. These characteristics included the sex of the child (Q-4), the number of children (Q-5), the youngest and oldest age (Q-6), race/ethnicity (Q-7), and the type of disability, if any, they were willing to consider in adopting a child (Q-8).

Sex and Number of Children. Table 5 shows that most respondents were willing to adopt either a boy or girl (57.6%), whereas 27.3 percent wished to adopt a female only, and 12.5 percent wanted to adopt only a boy. Most respondents (67.8%) wanted to adopt one or two children but 29.0 percent indicated they would adopt three or more children. Respondents who

believed they might not or would not be approved indicated a greater preference for boys and a greater preference for one or two children.

Age. As shown in Table 6, a majority of respondents (57.8%) were willing to adopt a child who is between the ages of 0 and 1 years. Almost 30 percent did not want to adopt a child who was older than 5 years and almost 60 percent were not willing to adopt a child who was older than 9 years.

Race. The race/ethnicity of children considered for adoption is reported in Table 7. The table is constructed to indicate all racial/ethnic groups of children considered. The total of 950 exceeds the actual respondents (520) as many respondents checked more than one category (see Q-7).

Disability. The type and level of a child's disability that respondents were willing to consider in adopting a child is found in Table 8. Four types of disabilities: mental retardation, learning disabilities, emotional problems, and physical disabilities were included in the study. Respondents indicated the level of disability: none, mild, moderate, and severe that they were willing to consider.

Among all respondents a large majority (67.7%) were not willing to consider a child who was mentally retarded. Only 6.3 percent were willing to consider a mentally retarded child who had moderate or severe impairments. Most respondents indicated a willingness to accept children with learning disabilities though only 28.4 percent were willing to accept a child with moderate or severe learning disabilities. Similiarly, only 28

percent were willing to accept a child with emotional problems or physical disabilities who was moderately or severely handicapped.

Tables 8A to 8E further specify level of disability willing to consider by age of children. Table 8A indicates level of mental retardation respondents were willing to consider. For those respondents who reported a homestudy barrier only 12 or 4.1 percent were willing to adopt a child with moderate or severe mental retardation who was at least 10 years of age. Regardless of age, 80 or 27.4 percent were willing to consider a child with mild retardation. However, as previously indicated, 64.4 percent were not willing to adopt a child who was mentally retarded. The respondents who were waiting for homestudies were only willing to adopt a child with mild retardation. Most would not consider this type of child.

Table 8B indicates the level of learning disabilities respondents were willing to consider. Forty-eight (16.4%) respondents who reported a homestudy barrier would consider an older child (age 10 or more) with moderate learning disabilities. However, only 5 (1.7%) were willing to consider a child with severe learning disabilities. Only one (4.0%) respondent who believed a homestudy would not be approved would consider an older child with a moderate or severe learning disability.

Table 8C indicates the level of emotional problems respondents were willing to consider in adopting a child. Fifty-four (18.5%) respondents who reported a homestudy barrier would consider an older child with moderate emotional problems. Only 8 (2.8%) respondents would consider a child with severe emotional problems. Only one (4.0%) respondent who

believed a homestudy may not be obtained or approved would consider an older child with moderate or severe emotional problems.

Table 8D indicates the level of physical disabilities respondents were willing to consider in adopting a child. Thirty-six (12.3%) respondents who reported a homestudy barrier were willing to consider an older child with moderate physical disabilities. However, 13(4.6%) were willing to consider an older child with severe physical disabilities.

Table 8E indicates the highest level of of any of the four disabilities respondents were willing to consider. Sixty-six (22.6) respondents who reported a homestudy barrier were willing to consider an older child with a moderate disability in at least one of the four areas. Another 7.2 percent were willing to consider a child with a severe disability. Very few respondents who were waiting for homestudies and believed they might not be successful were willing to consider an older child with moderate or severe disabilities.

Barriers Met

Table 9 details the number of reported barriers to adoption, in response to the seven questions previously discussed, by marital status and race for the 300 respondents who reported one or more homestudy barriers. For these 300 respondents, 46 or 15.3 percent reported one homestudy barrier, 93 or 31 percent reported two homestudy barriers, 87 or 29.0 percent reported three homestudy barriers, and 74 or 24.7 percent reported four or more homestudy barriers.

Of the 194 white married respondents the percentage of homestudy barriers is similar to the entire group of 300. Only two Hispanics

reported a homestudy barrier. In both instances they reported at least four homestudy barriers.

For the 300 respondents who reported homestudy barriers, Table 10 includes the marital status by race for the respondents and then presents the following: (1) race/ethnicity of child sought, (2) oldest age of child considered adopting, (3) highest level of disability willing to consider in adopting a child, and barriers encountered among the seven types of homestudy experiences.

Only two Hispanics reported a barrier to adoption. They report four and seven different types of barriers. Blacks (N=16), regardless of marital status, expressed a preference to adopt a black or bi-racial child. The two black males indicated a preference for a child between 10 and 13. Single black females varied; five wished to adopt a child less than 10 and one was willing to adopt a child up to age 13. Most married blacks expressed an interest in children between ages 6 and 9. Most single black females indicated a willingness to only accept a child with mild disabilities. Married blacks were willing to accept children with mild (57.1%) and moderate (42.9%) disabilities. In general, blacks report a number of different barriers to adoption.

White respondents, regardless of marital status, indicated not only a desire to adopt white children but also Hispanics, foreign born, any race or ethnicity, and various other combinations of children. Just over 38 percent of white married respondents expressed a desire to adopt children between 10 and 18 compared to one black married respondent or 14.3 percent. Both white females and males expressed a greater willingness to adopt older

children than black and other males and females. White respondents were generally more willing to adopt a child with more severe disabilities than other categories of respondents. For example, 56.3 percent of the white married respondents were willing to adopt a child whose highest disability was moderate or severe as compared to 42.9 percent of black married respondents. White respondents also reported a range of homestudy barriers similar to other respondents.

A slight majority of respondents (58.9%) reporting barriers indicated that they had been turned down or turned away by one or more agencies in an effort to get a homestudy completed. Also a slight majority (57.6%) did not submit applications to agencies after contacting that agency. Approximately 40 percent experienced delays in getting a homestudy or having it completed. Just over 35 percent reported that they had a homestudy but had not yet had a placement. Almost 37 percent reported that their request for an adoption homestudy had been rejected and 16.5 percent reported that after beginning a homestudy that they had been rejected for adoption.

Analysis of Barriers Experienced
by White Married Respondents

Further analysis was conducted by race and marital status of respondents in relation to each of the seven adoption barrier categories and the oldest age and highest disability by race of child willing to consider in adopting. Table 11A presents the analysis for white married respondents. The race/ethnicity of children respondents were willing to adopt was categoried into four groups: (1) white children only, (2) white

and other children, (3) foreign born children only, and (4) other children. Further division was made within each category by age of child and highest level of disability willing to adopt. Of the 191 white respondents for whom data is available, 47 wanted to adopt only white children, 118 were willing to adopt a white child and a child of another racial or ethnic group, ten were only interested in foreign born children, and 16 were willing to adopt children of other racial and ethnic groups.

While Table 11A provides an overview of barriers reported by white married respondents, Tables 11B through 11E indicate actual reasons given for (1) not submitting applications, (2) withdrawing applications, (3) being rejected for a homestudy, and (4) being rejected for adoption after beginning a homestudy. This format was also followed for the following groups of respondents (Tables 12 through 16): (1) married other than white, (2) white single female, (3) white other female, (4) female other than white, and (5) males. Following each reason is the state of residence and year of occurrence.

White married respondents did not submit applications for a variety of reasons. A review of reasons will reveal that some do not constitute a barrier. An asterisk (*) next to reason given, in the investigator's judgment, indiciates that the reason is not a barrier as defined in this study. In addition, all respondents who indicate that their interest is in foreign adoptions do not present a barrier as defined in this study.

Reasons for not submitting applications for homestudies include: (1) cost too expensive, (2) waiting list too long, (3) babies not available, (4) applicants too old, (5) applicants not married long enough, (6)

applicants had biological children, and (7) applicants were not of right religion.

Table 11C details reasons why white married respondents withdrew their applications for homestudies. Reasons included (1) cost, (2) long waiting period, (3) not married long enough (4) agency offered more severe handicapped children than respondents would accept, and (5) cost.

Table 11D details reasons agencies gave and respondents believe why they were rejected for a homestudy request. Reasons include (1) religious factors, (2) length of marriage, (3) age, (4) number of children, (5) long waiting list, (6) insufficient income, and (7) health factors.

Table 11E details reasons agencies gave (according to the respondents) and respondents believe why they were rejected for adoption after beginning a homestudy. Reasons primarily were related to the agency workers opinion of respondnets who were perceived to be deficient with regard to (1) medical health, (2) personality, (3) prior background, (4) marital relationship, and (5) mental health.

Table 11F provides current homestudy application status for this group. Currently 130 of 191 plan to adopt. Almost 50 percent have been approved to adopt though many have been waiting longer than six months to receive placement. Most believe they will be successful but a few who are waiting for the homestudy to begin believe they may not be successful.

Those who do not plan to adopt gave various reasons. For example, there were 20 respondents who indicated an interest in children between the ages of 10 and 13 who had moderate disabilities. Of this group six do not plan to adopt. Their reasons follow: (1) "Spouse changed mind", (2) "Would

like to but - really don't know where to go", (3) "We succeeded in adopting a sibling group of four in 1982 after a lot of agency 'put-offs'", (4) "We will try to adopt foster children but are not even trying for Nebr. welfare right now due to an illness - female trouble which will turn into surgery soon", and (5) "We had received placement from another source - we may adopt again in the future". The sixth did not elaborate.

Five respondents previously interested in children between the ages 14 and 18 with moderate disabilities gave the following reasons for not planning to adopt: (1) "When we were young enough to adopt we weren't permitted to be foster parents to adopt a child - Now at 59 & 60 we can't", (2) "Have adopted 3 children - need time for them to adjust and us deal with problems", (3) "Too much rudeness. We think that the workers are not interested in placing kids but only interested in their jobs", (4) "We have accepted three (ages 17, 15, 12) older children, are waiting to finalize on the third, at the present time we are expecting a baby in August. After all is settled, we will be looking at the Blue Book again", and (5) "Have placement - Sept. 1983".

Analysis of Barriers Experienced
by Other Than White Married Respondents

Table 12A reports on barriers experienced by other than white married respondents. There were 7 black couples, one Hispanic couple, and 15 couples who were not either white, black, Hispanic or who were not of the same racial or ethnic classification. The seven black couples wanted to adopt black children or black and other children with mild or moderate disabilities. One Hispanic couple who wanted to adopt a child between ages

10 and 13 with a moderate disability reported adoption barriers in all seven categories. The 15 other married couples were willing to adopt a white and other type of child or black and other type of child. A majority of other than white married respondents did not submit applications (60.0%), experienced delays in getting a homestudy or having it completed (66.7%), and/or had been turned down or turned away by one or more agencies in an effort to get a homestudy completed (60.9%).

Just 14 other than white married respondents did not submit applications. Reasons for withdrawing applications varied but included (1) cost, (2) health factors, (3) too many children, (4) agency restrictive policy, (4) and number of children (see Table 12B).

Six couples withdrew applications (Table 12C) of which one was related to personal reasons. Respondents expressed disappointment with the way agency personnel were proceeding or judgments made about them. Ten couples were rejected when they requested a homestudy (Table 12D). Respondents indicated that they were not able to meet agency expectations regarding attending orientation meetings, or were too old, or had too many children. Five couples were rejected after beginning a homestudy (Table 12E). Agency expectations appear to be the primary factor in being rejected.

Table 12F presents current homestudy application status for this group. Most (16 of 23) have applied to adopt or are planning to adopt. More than half have been approved for adoption though most have been waiting longer than six months for placement.

Analysis of Barriers Experienced
by Single Female Respondents

Tables 13Aa, 13Ab, and 13Ac report on barriers experienced by single female respondents by race, oldest age, and highest disability willing to consider in adopting a child. Forty white single females reported one or more homestudy barriers. A very large percentage (77.5%) did not submit applications, 50 percent were turned down or turned away, and 42.5 percent experienced delays in obtaining a homestudy. A smaller percentage withdrew or were rejected. Table 13Ab details barriers to adoption reported by white females who are either divorced, separated or widowed. A large majority did not submit applications (75.0%), 62.5 percent were turned down or turned away, and 50.0 percent experienced delays in obtaining a homestudy. Table 13Ac reports on other than white females. Of the seven single black respondents, 71.4 percent did not submit applications and 42.9 percent were turned down or turned away.

Fifty females did not submit applications of whom 32 (64.0%) were white and single (Table 13B). Five responses as shown by asterisks (*) indicate no barrier was met. The primary reason for not submitting applications for homestudies by single females pertained to their marital status, i.e., they were single or divorced. In other words, they were not married. Of the 46 respondents who met a barrier, 24 indicated that their marital status was an important factor in withdrawing their applicatons. Cost of adoption was also a very important factor in withdrawing applications. Long waiting list, mismatch between child wanted by respondent and available children, and not of same religion as agency were other reasons given.

Just 11 females withdrew applications of whom one withdrew when she moved and another because of difficulties in adopting Korean children (Table 13C). Marital status was a factor for four women while others expressed a variety of reasons. Twenty-three women were rejected for homestudies (Tables 13D). The reason most given pertained to marital status. Whether single or divorced, the absence of a man was a primary factor. Long waiting lists, mismatch between children wanted and children available and children available for prospective single parents, and a variety of other reasons were given. Nine women were rejected for adoption after beginning a homestudy (Table 13E). Four were rejected, in part, because they were single.

Table 13Fa provides current homestudy application status for white single female respondents. A large percentage (33 of 40) are currently applying or planning to adopt. Where information is not available the assumption is that they are planning to adopt but have not formally begun the homestudy process. More than 50 percent have been approved to adopt though many have been waiting for at least seven months to obtain placement. The few who are waiting have waited less than four months for the process to enter the next stage. Only one respondent belives that she will not get a homestudy.

Table 13Fb provides current homestudy application status for white divorced, separated, and widowed females. All but two plan to or have actually applied to adopt. Twenty-five percent believe they might not get an approved homestudy whereas almost 50 percent have an approved homestudy.

Table 13Fc provides current homestudy application status for other than white single female respondents who reported a homestudy barrier. Just over 50 percent plan to or have applied to adopt and most have had their adoption approved and wait for a child placement.

Analysis of Barriers Experienced by Single Male Respondents

There were 16 single or divorced white and black males who reported barriers to adoption (Table 14A). All 9 single white males were willing to adopt a child who was white or of another racial background. Most white males reported that they had been turned down by one or more agencies in an effort to get a homestudy completed (77.8%). A majority (66.7%) indicated that they had been rejected for a homestudy. Among white divorced males, 60 percent reported they had been turned down and/or were experiencing delays in obtaining a homestudy. The one single black male did not submit an application and the one divorced black withdrew his application.

Three of four single white males did not submit applications because of their "single" marital status (Table 14B). Others expressed a variety of reasons including "insufficient space for a child with one bedroom." Four single and divorced males withdrew applications (Table 14C) for various reasons including a lost application, getting the run around, personality clash, and one who "got married and had our own baby."

Seven white males of whom six were single were rejected for a homestudy (Table 14D) primarily because they were single (3), had a disability (1), low income (1), no children available (1), and because of

being an American in England (1). Just three males were rejected after beginning homestudies (Table 14E). Two were rejected because they were single.

Table 14F provides current homestudy application status for male respondents who reported a homestudy barrier. Most plan to or are currently applying to adopt. Available information indicates that just three have an approved homestudy but their wait to receive child placement has been longer than six months. Two who are waiting for a homestudy believe they will not obtain the homestudy. Three have begun the homestudy and one has been waiting longer than six months to have the homestudy completed.

Hispanic Respondents

Few Hispancis responded to this study - 7 couples and one single female. Only one Hispanic couple and the single female resported a homestudy barrier. The couple, in their thirties, had an income of less than $15,000. They were willing to adopt a child up to 10 years of age with moderate disabilities. Their main reason for rejection was due to lack of income.

Black Respondents

Of the 535 respondents, 67 were black. Of this group 16 reported at least one homestudy barrier (Table 1B), 18 reported no homestudy barrier (Table 1C), 27 had an approved homestudy or expected to be approved (Table 1D), and six were not sure that they would receive a homestudy or be approved (Table 1E).

Of the 16 who reported at least one homestudy barrier, 7 were couples (Table 12A-F), 7 were single females (Tables 13Ac, 13B, 13D, 13E, 13FC), one was a single male and one was a divorced male (Tables 14A, 14B, 14C, 14F). These couples and individuals encountered barriers that were not necessary. For example, one couple was "just put on hold for no reasonable cause. We were told that our information (initial call) 'got lost'". Another couple "never received an application". Another couple was expected to attend an orientation in the morning at the time both were working.

One single black female who would adopt a child up to age three with no disabilities was told that "a single woman could not adopt an infant". Another had a negative experience in 1978. She "tried again in 1981 with beautiful results". A 33 year old single black female who wished to adopt a child up to age four with only a mild emotional problem found "them not interested or concerned about my needs as a single Black adoptive parent". Another who wanted to adopt a female between the ages of 6 and 8 with no disabilites stated that "every time I called about a child, they wanted a two parent family".

Single blacks have encountered barriers but some wish to adopt relatively healthy young children. These children are being denied to them in favor of couples.

Among the 27 who believed they would be successful in child placement, 12 were married. Nine had approved homestudies; three had completed homestudies within the last three months and were waiting approval. Only two who had approved homestudies had been waiting longer than six months

for child placement. Both wanted a black child with no disabilities; one specified that the child not be older than six months and the other did not provide information on age of child. This group of black couples did not, at the time of completing the questionnaire, experience a homestudy barrier.

Also five divorced and one widowed black female had been approved for adoption. At the time of completion of the questionnaire none had waited longer than six months for child placement. Of the nine single black females who believed they would receive child placement, seven had been approved, one did not provide information, and one had completed the homestudy and had been waiting only two months for a decision to be made. One of the approved had been waiting since 1982. She is 64, will accept a black girl between 8 and 11 years of age and who has a mild learning disability. Two others have waited approximatley nine months. One, age 32, will accept a black child up to the age of six who has a mild learning disability, emotional problem, or physical disability. The other is 36, earns between $5,000 and $9,999, and is willing to accept a black or Hispanic child between the ages of 7 and 13 who has a moderate emotional problem, mild learning disability, or mild physical disability. Perhaps one or two then are experiencing a barrier in that they have been approved but child placement has not occurred.

Four married blacks, one single and one separated black female believe they may not be approved for adoption. One couple with two biological and two other children believe they will not obtain a homestudy because they do "not have enough bedroom space. We currently have only two bedrooms".

They submitted an application in March, 1983 and have been waiting approximately one year. Another couple has been waiting three months for a homestudy apparently because "both supervisors are on maternity leave". They "don't know" if they are going to get a homestudy. Another couple who will only accept a female infant with no disabilities are discouraged because the husband is often away on a naval ship. They have had difficulties coordinating the interviews with agency personnel. They "don't know" if they will obtain a homestudy. Perhaps the couple with limited bedroom space is truly experiencing a homestudy barrier but the other two probably will obtain homestudies.

The 29 year old separated black female provided little information other than she began the homestudy in 1983 but only indicates she "does not know" if she will be approved. A single black female who will accept a child between four and five with no disabilities submitted an application in February, 1984. She had been waiting two months at the time of completing the questionnaire. She indicated that she didn't know if she was going to get a homestudy "because everything seems to be going so slow". It does not appear that either single female has actually experienced a homstudy barrier.

No Barriers Reported

Table 15 provides selected data for 87 respondents who did not experience homestudy barriers. A majority were married (62.1%) of whom most were white (72.2%). The second largest group were single females (14.9%). Divorced, separated, and widowed females (10.3%) included five blacks or 55.6 percent of this group.

Information regarding the characteristics of children they sought to adopt: (a) race, (b) oldest age, and (c) highest level of disability is included in Table 15.

Homestudy Approved

Another group of respondents (N=123) also reported no barriers to adoption. This group indicated that they either had an approved homestudy, had completed the homestudy and expected to be approved to adopt, or were waiting for a homestudy and expected to obtain the homestudy. Table 16 presents the race/ethnicity of children sought by marital status and race, and includes oldest age of child considered adopting and highest level of disability willing to consider in adopting a child. Respondents' homestudy status is divided into four categories: (1) adoption approved, (2) completed but not approved, (3) waiting for homestudy, and (4) homestudy begun but not completed. For each of the four categories the length of wait in months is indicated.

Most (73.2%) had been approved for adoption but 58 of the 90 or 64.4 percent had been waiting at least seven months for child placement. A few respondents (N=7) had homestudies completed but were waiting for approval. Only 14 respondents were waiting for a homestudy of whom six had been waiting seven or more months. Just eight respondents reported that homestudies had begun but had not been completed. Most (6 of 8) who had begun the homestudy process had been waiting three months or less to have the homestudy completed.

An Approved Homestudy in Doubt

Some respondents who did not indicate a barrier to adoption reported that they believed they will not or may not get an approved homestudy. Table 17 details respondents' marital status by race and provides information on the following: (1) race of children, (2) oldest age of child, (3) highest level of disability willing to consider in adopting a child.

For those respondents for whom there is available information, 19 (76%) were waiting for homestudies and ten had been waiting for at least seven months.

DISCUSSION

The findings of this study may be categorized into those who reported one or more types of homestudy barriers and those who returned the questionnaire but did not report a homestudy barrier. Further, homestudy barrier respondents may be divided by those who wanted to adopt (1) children born and residing outside of the United States, (2) children who meet a definition of "special needs", and (3) children who do not meet a "special needs" definition.

This study's main purpose was to obtain information regarding possible homestudy barriers that may exist when prospective parents attempt to adopt "children who are older, have physical disabilities, are emotionally troubled, or are mentally retarded. Many are Black or Hispanic. Some are brothers and sisters who need a home together". This definition, included in the questionnaire, was written by leaders in the "special needs" adoption field. Obviously the definition was not completely operationalized. For example, what is the age for an older child? Does

the age vary by race? What is the level of disability that qualifies? How are these variables considered in combination? Do children who are born outside of the United States qualifiy for the "special needs" designation? White children were defined as "special needs" if they were at least 10 years of age or had a moderate or severe handicap regardless of age. Black children were defined as "special needs" if they were two years of age or older and had at least a mild handicap. Black children with moderate or severe disabilities were considered "special needs" regardless of age.

A pamphlet on "Facts About Black Adoption" published by the North American Council on Adoptable Children, provided the following information on the Black children who wait: "Although there are some Black infants and toddlers available, most children in need of adoption are school-aged or adolescents. Some may have physical or mental handicaps or emotional problems. Many children need to be placed together with brothers and sisters". A Fact Sheet prepared by Homes for Black Children in Washington, D.C. indicated that the majority of Black waiting children are "Black males over 4 years, members of sibling groups and older girls." The operationalized definition of "special needs" may not be acceptable to all but is included to emphasize the purpose of this study.

Respondents returned questionnaires claiming one or more barriers but who clearly do not meet the "special needs" definition. A number of respondents have essentially wanted to adopt foreign born children and healthy and young American children. Did they complete the questionnaire because they simply wanted to express their frustration with the "system"

or did they not read the instructions, or were they unaware that the child they wished to adopt was not a "special needs" child.

Of the 191 white married respondents, 125 experienced a homestudy barrier (Table 11A). All 23 other than white couples experienced a homestudy barrier (Table 12A). Thirty-seven of 46 white single and divorced females (Tables 13Aa & 13Ab), 7 of 9 other than white females (Table 13Ac), 13 of 14 white single and divorced males, and 2 of 2 single and divorced black males experienced homstudy barriers (Table 14A). Of the 300 who reported a homestudy barrier (Table 4), 207 or 69 percent experienced a homestudy barrier according to the author's definition of "special needs".

Of those who believe they will be successful in adopting (Table 16), 66 of 123 had been waiting 7 or more months of whom 58 had been approved to adopt. Some believe they will not obtain a homestudy (Table 17). Of this group 10 had been waiting for a homestudy for at least 7 months.

Of the 535 respondents, how many experienced a homestudy barrier? Perhaps 207 who met the "special needs" definition who reported a homestudy barrier, 66 who believe they will adopt and had been waiting 7 or more months, and the 25 who believe they will not be successful; a total of 298 of 535 or 55.7 percent then probably experienced a homestudy barrier.

Blacks and single female and males clearly encountered homestudy barriers. Single individuals were often denied access simply because they were single. Blacks and other couples encountered a range of other problems. These findings are consistent with reports from various groups

who find that agencies tend not to be responsive to the unique needs and qualifications of singles and black and other than white couples.

The findings may suggest that child welfare agencies and especially public agencies need to clearly specify who are the "special needs" children and who are the available waiting children in the United States. The number of children waiting to be adopted who currently are in the public foster care system is 36,000 according to Maza (18) of the Administration of Children, Youth, and Families. Data collected from a survey in December, 1982, of a national random sample of case records revealed that 50.7 percent are males and 49.3 percent are females. Most are white (57.5%), while 36.9 percent are black not Hispanic, 3.3 percent are Hispanic, .8 percent are Asian, .9 percent are American Indian, and .6 percent were not identified regarding race. Most were not considered to be handicapped (61.5%). Just 5.5 percent were less than one year old; 8.8 percent were between 1-3, 12.3 percent were between 4-6, 14.9 percent were between 7-10, 24.7 percent were between 11-14, and 33.5 percent were between 15 and 18. More than half were 11 or older and approxmiately one-quarter were less than six years of age.

A related issue pertains to the adoption of foreign born children. Many respondents who want to adopt foreign born children have expectations of public agencies that indicate they have a first priority on services. They believe that they should have access to publicaly funded agencies in order to obtain homestudies. This policy issue needs to be addressed. What priorities do applicants for homestudies have when their intent is to adopt foreign born children? Should the services be free or should there

be a charge? Should public agencies even perform the service? How can public agencies justify their decisions? In any case applicants need to understand agency policy.

Very few respondents expressed interest in adopting children with severe or even moderate disabilities for children who are mentally retarded. Similiarly, study respondents were not willing to accept children with other disabilities if the disability was moderate or severe in nature. Also, almost 60 percent were not willing to adopt a child who was older than 9 years. The "special needs" children who are available for adoption tend to be older than 9 years - if white - and/or tend to have moderate or severe disabilities. Hence, there is a mismatch between available children offered by agencies and what most respondents want. Barriers are bound to be encountered by many respondents when available children do not match respondents' desires. The necessity for providing accurate information regarding the characteristics of children who continue to wait is an urgent priority.

A serious limitation of this study was the inability to identify, even approximately, the number of people who believe they actually experienced a homestudy barrier. Further, just 535 couples and individuals responded to this study and just a slight majority experienced a homestudy barrier. The questionnaire was quite complex and perhaps dissuaded some from completing the survey. A brief questionnaire followed by the questionnaire used in this study may have resulted in additional responses. Few Hispanics responded to this study. Perhaps a questionnaire written in Spanish may have resulted in a larger response. There are numerous other approaches

that could be employed to determine if obtaining a homestudy constitutes a barrier in 1985. Studies by state and local adoptive parent groups and especially black and Hispanic groups may reveal patterns of discrimination. Agencies who specialize in placing black children and Hispanic children would have access to black and Hispanic prospective adoptive parents who could be surveyed to determine if public agencies are inappropriately discouraging applicants. Contracts with state agencies which would allow research investigators to randomly select names of people who make inquiries to adopt would further reveal possible discrimination.

Investigators may also need to study number and race of staff available to prepare homestudies, examine eligibility criteria, study application forms, and examine availability of staff to meet with prospective adoptive parents. Obtaining a homestudy can be difficult if human service agencies create institutional barriers. Prospective adoptive parents of "special needs" children are a potentially powerful resource and should be treated with respect and prompt attention. Complex applications, limited hours to meet, long waiting lists, too few workers, few or no workers of the same racial or ethnic group, insentive staff who answer telephones or conduct intake, offices not in neighborhoods, and an undue concern with maximum age, minimum income, health requirements, and other rigid requirements can and do deter potential resources. People who do not submit or withdraw their applications may be forever lost to a waiting child. They may also not be identified by traditional research methods.

At a workshop on "Identifying Barriers to Adoption of Special Needs Children" presented by the author and Laurie Flynn at the 9th Biannual

Training Conference of the North American Council on Adoptable Children on August 11, 1982, most of the 33 participants indicated that homestudy barriers existed. These participants, knowledgeable professionals and child advocates, clearly stated that from their own personal and professional experiences homestudy barriers exist. It is difficult to reconcile the findings of this study with current opinion. How many questionnaires should have been received to justify a finding that homestudy barriers are a major problem: 1,000; 5,000; or more?

The limitations of this study perhaps suggest that there are no certain answers regarding the ability of blacks, Hispanics, other minorities, and others to obtain access and completion of approved homestudies. State services can vary considerably. The number of respondents by state was too limited to suggest that human service agenies in one state were superior or deficient as compared to other states.

A renewed emphases and creation of specialized agencies and programs to recruit black and Hispanic families may indicate that considerable progress has been made in facilitating the completion of homestudies. While obtaining a homestudy may not be a significant barrier it should be noted that "there are at least 100,000 Black children waiting for adoption" (19) and that any barriers that exist to obtaining prospective parents for these and other children constitute a national tradegy.

NOTES

1. Alfred Kadushin, Child Welfare Services, 3rd ed. (New York: Macmillan, 1980), p. 531.

2. Alan R. Gruber, Children in Foster Care (New York: Human Sciences Press, 1978), p. 10.

3. The National Commission on Children in Need of Parents, Who Knows? Who Cares: Forgotten Children in Foster Care (New York: Institute of Public Affairs, 1979), p. 5.

4. Ibid., pp. 6-7.

5. Ibid., pp. 7-8.

6. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Adoption Services in the States, by William Miezan (Washington, D.C.: Author, 1980), p. 5.

7. Ibid.

8. Ibid., pp. 9-39.

9. National Black Child Development Institute, A Child Waits: A Conference Report on Black Adoptions (Washington, D.C.: Author, 1983).

10. Ibid., p. 3.

11. Ibid., pp. 7-8.

12. Ibid., p. 8.

13. National Urban League, Facilitating Black Adoptions: The Final Report of the Interagency Adoption Project (New York: Author, 1979).

14. Ibid., p. 3.

15. Ibid., p. 2.

16. Ibid., p. 5.

17. Ibid.

18. Penelope Maza, Administration of Children, Youth, and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, August 14, 1985.

19. A Child Waits, p. 6.

Table 1A. Selected Characteristics of All Respondents (N=535)

Marital Status and Race	Family Income: Less than $5,000 N	%	$5,000-$9,999 N	%	$10,000-$14,999 N	%	$15,000-$19,999 N	%	$20,000-$24,999 N	%	$25,000-$29,999 N	%	$30,000-$39,999 N	%	$40,000- or more N	%	Totals N	%
Single Female																	92	17.3
Black (21)	0	0.0	2	9.5	7	33.3	5	23.8	1	4.8	3	14.3	2	9.5	1	4.8	21	23.9
Hispanic (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.1
White (65)	1	1.5	4	6.2	7	10.8	20	30.8	18	27.7	5	7.7	8	12.3	2	3.1	65	73.9
Other (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.1
No Response (4)	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	4	---
Divorced Female																	34	6.4
Black (8)	0	0.0	1	12.5	2	25.0	0	0.0	2	25.0	1	12.5	2	25.0	0	0.0	8	23.5
White (24)	0	0.0	1	4.2	5	20.8	3	12.5	5	20.8	3	12.5	6	25.0	1	4.2	24	70.6
Other (2)	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	5.9
Separated Female																	2	0.4
Black (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Other (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Widowed Female																	5	0.9
Black (2)	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	40.0
White (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	20.0
Other (2)	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	40.0
Single Male																	25	4.7
Black (1)	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	4.5
White (22)	3	13.6	1	4.5	3	13.6	6	27.3	5	22.7	3	13.6	1	4.5	0	0.0	22	92.6
Other (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	4.5
No Response (1)	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	1	---
Divorced Male																	7	1.3
Black (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	14.3
White (6)	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	16.7	2	33.3	1	16.7	1	16.7	0	0.0	1	16.7	6	85.7
Living Together																	2	0.4
White (2)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	2	100.0
Married																	366	68.7
Black (33)	3	9.1	0	0.0	1	3.0	5	15.2	5	15.2	7	21.2	7	21.2	5	15.2	33	9.2
Hispanic (7)	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	57.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	14.3	2	28.6	0	0.0	7	1.9
White (303)	1	0.3	12	4.0	27	8.9	38	12.5	50	16.5	37	12.2	72	23.8	66	21.8	303	84.4
Other (16)	0	0.0	1	6.3	1	6.3	3	18.8	4	25.0	3	18.8	1	6.3	3	18.8	16	4.5
No Response (7)	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	7	---
Totals	8	1.5	25	4.8	59	11.3	85	16.3	94	18.0	68	13.1	102	19.6	80	15.4	521	100.0

Table 1B. Selected Characteristics of Respondents Who Reported One or More Homestudy Barriers (N=300)

Marital Status and Race	Family Income: Less than $5,000		$5,000-$9,999		$10,000-$14,999		$15,000-$19,999		$20,000-$24,999		$25,000-$29,999		$30,000-$39,999		$40,000- or more		Totals	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Single Female																	48	16.0
Black (7)	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	28.6	2	28.6	1	14.3	0	0.0	1	14.3	1	14.3	7	15.2
Hispanic (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	2.2
White (38)	1	2.6	1	2.6	5	13.2	11	28.9	13	34.2	2	5.3	4	10.5	1	2.6	38	82.6
No Response (2)	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---
Divorced Female																	17	5.7
White (16)	0	0.0	1	6.3	2	12.5	2	12.5	3	18.8	2	12.5	6	37.5	0	0.0	16	94.1
Other (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.9
Widowed Female																	2	0.7
White (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Other (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Single Male																	10	3.3
Black (1)	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.0
White (9)	3	33.3	1	11.1	2	22.2	1	11.1	1	11.1	1	11.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	90.0
Divorced Male																	6	2.0
Black (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	16.7
White (5)	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	2	40.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	5	83.3
Married																	217	72.3
Black (7)	1	14.3	0	0.0	1	14.3	2	28.6	1	14.3	2	28.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	3.3
Hispanic (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.5
White (191)	0	0.0	7	3.7	19	9.9	23	12.0	31	16.2	20	10.5	52	27.2	39	20.4	191	89.3
Other (15)	0	0.0	1	6.7	1	6.7	3	20.0	4	26.7	3	20.0	0	0.0	3	20.0	15	7.0
No Response (3)	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	3	---
Totals	5	1.7	12	4.1	34	11.5	48	16.3	55	18.6	33	11.2	63	21.4	45	15.3	295	100.1*

*Rounding error

Table 1C. Selected Characteristics of Respondents Who Had No Homestudy Barrier (N=87)

Marital Status and Race	Family Income: Less than $5,000		$5,000-$9,999		$10,000-$14,999		$15,000-$19,999		$20,000-$24,999		$25,000-$29,999		$30,000-$39,999		$40,0000 or more		Totals	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Single Female																	14	16.5
Black (4)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	50.0	0	0.0	1	25.0	1	25.0	0	0.0	4	30.8
White (8)	0	0.0	2	25.0	0	0.0	2	25.0	2	25.0	0	0.0	1	12.5	1	12.5	8	61.2
Other (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	7.7
No Response (1)	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	1	---
Divorced Female																	6	7.1
Black (3)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	66.7	0	0.0	1	33.3	0	0.0	3	50.0
White (3)	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	66.7	1	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	50.0
Widowed Female																	2	2.4
Black (1)	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Other (1)	0	0.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Single Male																	7	8.2
White (6)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	50.0	1	16.7	1	16.7	1	16.7	0	0.0	6	100.0
No Response (1)	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	1	---
Living Together																	1	1.2
White (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	1	100.0
Married																		
Black (10)	2	20.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.0	1	10.0	1	10.0	3	30.0	2	20.0	10	19.2
Hispanic (5)	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	60.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	5	9.6
White (37)	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	5.4	9	24.3	2	5.4	5	13.5	8	21.6	11	29.7	37	71.2
No Response (3)	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	3	---
Totals	2	2.5	4	5.0	7	8.8	18	22.5	8	10.0	10	12.5	16	20.0	15	18.8	80	100.1

Table 1D. Selected Characteristics of Respondents Who Have Approved or Believe Will Be Approved for Homestudies (N=123)

Marital Status and Race	Family Income															
	Less than $5,000		$5,000-$9,999		$10,000-$14,999		$15,000-$19,999		$20,000-$24,999		$25,000-$29,999		$30,000-$34,999		$40,000- or more		Totals	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Single Female																	26	21.1
Black (9)	0	0.0	2	22.2	5	55.6	1	11.1	0	0.0	1	11.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	34.6
White (17)	0	0.0	1	5.9	2	11.8	7	41.2	3	17.6	2	11.8	2	11.8	0	0.0	7	65.4
Divorced Female																	10	8.1
Black (5)	0	0.0	1	20.0	2	40.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	20.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	5	50.0
White (4)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	50.0	1	25.0	0	0.0	1	25.0	4	40.0
Other (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.0
Separated Female																	1	0.8
Other (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Widowed Female																	1	0.8
Black (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Single Male																	7	5.7
White (7)	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	14.3	2	28.6	3	42.9	1	14.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	100.0
Divorced Male																	1	0.8
White (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Married																	77	62.6
Black (12)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	25.0	2	16.7	4	33.3	3	25.0	12	15.8
Hispanic (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	1	1.3
White (63)	1	1.6	3	4.8	5	7.9	4	6.3	12	19.0	12	19.0	12	19.0	14	22.2	63	82.9
No Response (1)	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	1	---
Totals	1	0.8	7	5.7	16	13.1	15	12.3	24	19.7	20	16.4	21	17.2	18	14.8	122	100.0

Table 1E. Selected Characteristics of Respondents Who Are Waiting for Homestudies But Believe They May Not be Approved (N=25)

Marital Status and Race	Family Income: Less than $5,00		$5,000-$9,999		$10,000-$14,999		$15,000-$19,999		$20,000-$24,999		$25,000-$29,999		$30,000-$39,999		$40,000- or more		Totals	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Single Female																	4	16.0
Black (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	33.3
White (2)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	2	66.7
No Response (1)	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	-	---	1	---
Divorced Female																	1	4.0
White (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Separated Female																	1	4.0
Black (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Single Male																	1	4.0
Other (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Living Together																	1	4.0
White (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Married																	17	68.0
Black (4)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	50.0	0	0.0	2	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	23.5
White (12)	0	0.0	2	16.7	1	8.3	2	16.7	5	41.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	16.7	12	70.6
Other (1)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	1	5.9
Totals	0	0.0	2	8.3	2	8.3	4	16.7	7	29.2	5	20.8	2	8.3	2	8.3	24	99.9*

*Rounding Error

Table 2. Number of Children Living in Home During Period Respondents Applied to Adopt

Children in Home	All Respondents							Barriers Met							Barrier Not Met							Approved and Waiting							Waiting for Homestudy						
	0	1	2	3	4	5	5	0	1	2	3	4	5	5	0	1	2	3	4	5	5	0	1	2	3	4	5	5	0	1	2	3	4	5	5
Biological	333	86	67	29	6	7	2	187	49	36	20	1	4	2	52	14	10	3	3	2	0	83	16	16	6	2	0	0	11	7	5	0	0	1	0
Adopted	427	64	10	11	6	5	7	233	41	7	6	4	4	4	67	7	3	4	0	1	2	107	13	0	1	1	0	1	20	3	0	0	1	0	0
Foster	492	20	13	2	3	0	1	273	13	8	2	2	0	1	75	4	5	0	1	0	0	121	2	0	0	0	0	0	23	1	0	0	0	0	0
Other	508	11	8	3	0	0	0	283	8	5	3	0	0	0	82	2	0	0	0	0	0	121	1	1	0	0	0	0	22	0	2	0	0	0	0
All Children	266	99	59	48	23	8	27	146	55	30	33	13	5	17	44	11	9	5	4	3	8	69	25	14	10	4	0	1	7	8	6	0	2	0	1

Table 3. State Lived In During Period of Application to Adopt

State	All Respondents N	%	Barriers Met (1) N	%	Barrier Not Met (2) N	%	Approved and Waiting (3) N	%	Waiting for Homestudy (4) N	%	Barrier Reprted by State (1 + 4) N	%
Alabama	8	1.5	4	1.3	1	1.2	2	1.6	1	4.3	5	62.5
Arizona	6	1.1	4	1.3	1	1.2	1	0.8	0	0.0	4	66.7
Arkansas	2	0.4	1	0.3	1	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0
California	53	10.0	28	9.3	10	11.9	13	10.7	2	8.7	30	56.6
Colorado	10	1.9	8	2.7	1	1.2	0	0.0	1	4.3	9	90.0
Connecticut	5	0.9	4	1.3	1	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	80.0
Delaware	1	0.2	1	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Florida	5	0.9	4	1.3	0	0.0	1	0.8	0	0.0	4	80.0
Georgia	5	0.9	3	1.0	0	0.0	2	1.6	0	0.0	3	60.0
Idaho	17	3.2	10	3.3	0	0.0	6	4.9	1	4.3	11	64.7
Illinois	24	4.5	17	5.7	2	2.4	5	4.1	0	0.0	17	70.8
Indiana	18	3.4	8	2.7	2	2.4	5	4.1	3	13.0	11	61.1
Iowa	33	6.2	18	6.0	9	10.7	5	4.1	1	4.3	19	57.8
Kansas	3	0.6	2	0.7	1	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	66.7
Kentucky	7	1.3	4	1.3	0	0.0	3	2.5	0	0.0	4	57.1
Louisiana	1	0.2	1	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Maine	6	1.1	6	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	100.0
Maryland	14	2.6	12	4.0	2	2.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	12	85.7
Massachusetts	12	2.3	7	2.3	1	1.2	3	2.5	1	4.3	8	66.7
Michigan	14	2.6	6	2.0	2	2.4	6	4.9	0	0.0	6	42.9
Minnesota	1	0.2	1	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Mississippi	2	0.4	1	0.3	1	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Missouri	10	1.9	4	1.3	1	1.2	4	3.3	1	4.3	5	50.0
Montana	1	0.2	0	0.0	1	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Table 3. State Lived In During Period of Application to Adopt (Continued)

State	All Respondents N	%	Barriers Met (1) N	%	Barrier Not Met (2) N	%	Approved and Waiting (3) N	%	Waiting for Homestudy (4) N	%	Barrier Reported by State (1 + 4) N	%
Nebraska	2	0.4	2	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Nevada	1	0.2	1	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
New Hampshire	2	0.4	2	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
New Jersey	14	2.6	6	2.0	4	4.8	4	3.3	0	0.0	6	42.9
New Mexico	7	1.3	7	2.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	100.0
New York	34	6.4	20	6.7	3	3.6	10	8.2	1	4.3	21	61.8
North Carolina	16	3.0	6	2.0	3	3.6	6	4.9	1	4.3	7	43.8
North Dakota	1	0.2	1	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Ohio	25	4.7	12	4.0	4	4.8	8	6.6	1	4.3	13	52.0
Oklahoma	7	1.3	6	2.0	0	0.0	1	0.8	0	0.0	6	85.7
Oregon	6	1.1	4	1.3	1	1.2	1	0.8	0	0.0	4	66.7
Pennsylvania	53	10.0	23	7.7	13	15.5	13	10.7	4	17.4	27	50.9
Rhode Island	2	0.4	1	0.3	1	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0
South Carolina	7	1.3	4	1.3	0	0.0	3	2.5	0	0.0	4	57.1
South Dakota	2	0.4	0	0.0	1	1.2	1	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
Tennessee	3	0.6	1	0.3	0	0.0	2	1.6	0	0.0	1	33.3
Texas	9	1.7	3	1.0	5	6.0	1	0.8	0	0.0	3	33.3
Utah	8	1.5	5	1.7	0	0.0	3	2.5	0	0.0	5	62.5
Vermont	2	0.4	1	0.3	1	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Virginia	25	4.7	15	5.0	3	3.6	4	3.3	3	13.0	18	72.0
Washington	18	3.4	10	3.3	5	6.0	3	2.5	0	0.0	10	55.6
West Virgiania	5	0.9	1	0.3	0	0.0	2	1.6	2	8.7	3	60.0
Wisconsin	16	3.0	9	3.0	3	3.6	4	3.3	0	0.0	9	56.2
Wyoming	4	0.8	4	1.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	100.0
Other Country	2	0.4	2	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
No Response	6	---	0	---	3	---	1	---	2	---	-	-----

Table 4. Homestudy Experiences

Question	All Respondents (N=535) Yes		Barriers Met (N=300) Yes		Barrier Not Met (N=87) Yes		Approved & Waiting (N=123) Yes		Waiting for Homestudy (N=25) Yes	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Have you ever been turned down or turned away by one or more agencies in an effort to get a homestudy completed?	175	33.1	175	58.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Are you experiencing delays in getting a homestudy or having it completed?	159	30.2	118	39.6	0	0.0	20	16.4	21	84.0
Have you completed a homestudy but have not yet had a placement?	202	38.3	106	35.7	3	3.6	92	74.8	1	4.0
Have you ever contacted an agency but did not follow-up by submitting an application?	215	40.4	200	66.7	8	9.5	7	5.7	0	0.0
Have you ever withdrawn your application to adopt a child?	68	12.8	65	21.7	1	1.2	2	1.6	0	0.0
Has your request for an adoption homestudy ever been rejected?	109	20.5	109	36.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
After beginning a homestudy have you ever been rejected for adoption?	49	9.2	49	16.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Table 5. Characteristics of Children Respondents Considered Adopting

Characteristic	All Respondents N	All Respondents %	Barriers Met N	Barriers Met %	Barrier Not Met N	Barrier Not Met %	Approved and Waiting N	Approved and Waiting %	Waiting for Homestudy N	Waiting for Homestudy %
Sex										
Male	67	12.5	38	12.7	9	10.3	14	11.4	6	24.0
Female	146	27.3	68	22.7	24	27.6	46	37.4	8	32.0
Either	308	57.6	190	63.3	45	51.7	62	50.4	11	44.0
No response	14	2.6	4	1.3	9	10.3	1	0.8	0	0.0
Totals	535	100.0	300	100.0	87	99.9*	123	100.0	25	100.0
Number of Children										
1	135	25.2	64	21.3	26	29.9	34	27.6	11	44.0
2	228	42.6	129	43.0	32	36.8	59	48.0	8	32.0
3	82	15.3	50	16.7	13	14.9	16	13.0	3	12.0
4	33	6.2	26	8.7	2	2.3	5	4.1	0	0.0
5	13	2.4	7	2.3	3	3.4	1	0.8	2	8.0
6 or more	27	5.1	18	6.0	2	2.3	6	4.9	1	4.0
No response	17	3.2	6	2.0	9	10.3	2	1.6	0	0.0
Totals	535	100.0	300	100.0	87	99.9*	123	100.0	25	100.0

*Rounding error

Table 6. Age of Children Respondents Considered Adopting

Age	All Respondents				Barriers Met				Barrier Not Met				Approved and Waiting				Waiting for Homestudy			
	Youngest		Oldest		Youngest		Oldest		Youngest		Oldest		Youngest		Oldest		Youngest		Oldest	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0	309	57.8	14	2.6	191	63.7	6	2.0	45	51.7	4	4.6	59	48.0	3	2.4	14	56.0	1	4.0
1	30	5.6	11	2.1	10	3.3	6	2.0	5	5.7	3	3.4	14	11.4	1	0.8	1	4.0	1	4.0
2	45	8.4	24	4.5	25	8.3	16	5.3	6	6.9	4	4.6	11	8.9	2	1.6	3	12.0	2	8.0
3	35	6.5	24	4.5	21	7.0	15	5.0	4	4.6	2	2.3	10	8.1	7	5.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
4	24	4.5	29	5.4	11	3.7	16	5.3	4	4.6	6	6.9	8	6.5	4	3.3	1	4.0	3	12.0
5	27	5.0	57	10.7	14	4.7	35	11.7	4	4.6	3	3.4	7	5.7	16	13.0	2	8.0	3	12.0
6	16	3.0	44	8.2	5	1.7	18	6.0	2	2.3	9	10.3	6	4.9	16	13.0	3	12.0	1	4.0
7	6	1.1	34	6.4	2	0.7	25	8.3	1	1.1	2	2.3	3	2.4	5	4.1	0	0.0	2	8.0
8	14	2.6	47	8.8	8	2.7	25	8.3	4	4.6	6	6.9	2	1.6	14	11.4	0	0.0	2	8.0
9	2	0.4	18	3.4	2	0.7	11	3.7	0	0.0	2	2.3	0	0.0	5	4.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
10	8	1.5	57	10.7	4	1.3	28	9.3	2	2.3	14	16.1	2	1.6	12	9.8	0	0.0	3	12.0
11	2	0.4	20	3.7	2	0.7	11	3.7	0	0.0	2	2.3	0	0.0	7	5.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
12	1	0.7	48	9.0	0	0.0	29	9.7	1	1.1	8	9.2	0	0.0	11	8.9	0	0.0	0	0.0
13	0	0.0	21	3.9	0	0.0	10	3.3	0	0.0	4	4.6	0	0.0	6	4.9	0	0.0	1	4.0
14	0	0.0	32	6.0	0	0.0	17	5.7	0	0.0	5	5.7	0	0.0	7	5.7	0	0.0	3	12.0
15	1	0.2	9	1.7	0	0.0	6	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.8	1	4.0	2	8.0
16	0	0.0	12	2.2	0	0.0	9	3.0	0	0.0	3	3.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
17	0	0.0	10	1.9	0	0.0	6	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	2.4	0	0.0	1	4.0
18	0	0.0	5	0.9	0	0.0	4	1.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
No Response	15	2.8	19	3.6	5	1.7	7	2.3	9	10.3	10	11.5	1	0.8	2	1.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
Totals	535	100.0	535	100.2*	300	100.2*	300	99.9*	87	99.8*	87	99.8*	123	99.9	123	100.0	25	100.0	25	100.0

*Rounding error

Table 7. Race/Ethnicity of Children Considered for Adoption

Race/ Ethnicity	All Respondents N	%	Barriers Met N	%	Barrier Not Met N	%	Approved and Waiting N	%	Waiting for Homestudy N	%
White	320	34.2	186	32.2	42	33.1	78	40.6	14	35.9
Hispanic	179	19.1	124	21.5	20	15.7	31	16.1	4	10.3
Black	101	10.8	44	7.6	22	17.3	30	15.6	5	12.8
Bi-racial	65	7.0	41	7.1	11	8.7	8	4.2	5	12.8
Any race	63	6.7	48	8.3	5	3.9	8	4.2	2	5.1
Asian	60	6.4	43	7.5	4	3.1	10	5.2	3	7.7
East Indian	49	5.2	31	5.4	4	3.1	10	5.2	4	10.3
Korean	29	3.1	16	2.8	9	7.1	4	2.1	0	0.0
Native American	12	1.3	7	1.2	3	2.4	1	0.5	1	2.6
Hispanic-White	12	1.3	8	1.4	1	0.8	3	1.6	0	0.0
Latin American	10	1.1	6	1.0	0	0.0	3	1.6	1	2.6
White Asian	8	0.9	5	0.9	1	0.8	2	1.0	0	0.0
Any but Black	7	0.7	5	0.9	1	0.8	1	0.5	0	0.0
Vietnamese	5	0.5	2	0.3	3	2.4	0	0.0	0	0.0
Foreign born	5	0.5	4	0.7	1	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
Chinese	4	0.4	3	0.5	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0
Other	6	0.6	4	0.7	0	0.0	2	1.0	0	0.0
No response	15	---	6	---	9	---	0	---	0	---
Totals	950	99.8*	583	100.0	136	100.0	192	99.9*	39	100.1*

*Rounding error

Table 8. Type and Level of Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Type of Disability	All Respondents (N=535) Level of Disability										Barriers Met (N=300) Level of Disability									
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		No Response		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		No Response	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Mental Retardation	362	67.7	125	23.4	28	5.2	7	1.3	13	2.4	192	64.0	81	27.0	18	6.0	6	2.0	3	1.0
Learning Disabilities	104	19.4	266	49.7	134	25.0	18	3.4	13	2.4	50	16.7	148	49.3	87	29.0	12	4.0	3	1.0
Emotional Problems	119	22.2	252	47.1	135	25.2	16	3.0	13	2.4	57	19.0	144	48.0	84	28.0	12	4.0	3	1.0
Physical Disabilities	138	25.8	233	43.6	122	22.8	29	5.4	13	2.4	57	19.0	143	47.7	74	24.7	23	7.7	3	1.0

Barrier Not Met (N=87) Level of Disability											Approved and Waiting (N=123) Level of Disability									
None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		No Response		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		No Response	
N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
58	66.7	17	19.5	3	3.4	1	1.1	8	9.2	95	77.2	19	15.4	7	5.7	0	0.0	2	1.6
25	28.7	32	36.8	18	20.7	4	4.6	8	9.2	21	17.1	72	58.5	26	21.1	2	1.6	2	1.6
27	31.0	33	37.9	16	18.4	3	3.4	8	9.2	26	21.1	62	50.4	32	26.0	1	0.8	2	1.6
32	36.8	25	28.7	19	21.8	3	3.4	8	9.2	39	31.7	54	43.9	26	21.1	2	1.6	2	1.6

Waiting for Homestudy (N=25) Level of Disability									
None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		No Response	
N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
17	68.0	8	32.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
8	32.0	14	56.0	3	12.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
9	36.0	13	52.0	3	12.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
10	40.0	11	44.0	3	12.0	1	4.0	0	0.0

Table 8A. Level of Mental Retardation Willing to Consider in Adopting by Age of Child

AGE OF CHILD	All Respondents (N=512) Level of Disability								Barrier Met (N=292) Level of Disability								Barrier Not Met (N=75) Level of Disability							
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-5	124	24.2	26	5.1	4	0.8	2	0.4	76	26.0	13	4.5	2	0.7	2	0.7	16	21.3	4	5.3	1	1.3	0	0.0
6-9	93	18.2	36	7.0	10	2.0	3	0.6	47	16.1	24	8.2	6	2.1	2	0.7	12	16.0	5	6.7	0	0.0	1	1.3
10-13	105	20.5	34	6.6	5	1.0	2	0.4	49	16.8	24	8.2	3	1.0	2	0.7	23	30.7	4	5.3	1	1.3	0	0.0
14-18	32	6.3	27	5.3	9	1.8	0	0.0	16	5.5	19	6.5	7	2.4	0	0.0	4	5.3	3	4.0	1	1.3	0	0.0
Totals	354	69.1	123	24.0	28	5.5	7	1.4	188	64.4	80	27.4	18	6.2	6	2.1	55	73.3	16	21.3	3	4.0	1	1.3

AGE OF CHILD	Approved and Waiting (N=120) Level of Disability								Waiting for Homestudy (N=25) Level of Disability							
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-5	24	20.0	7	5.8	1	0.8	0	0.0	8	32.0	2	8.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
6-9	30	25.0	6	5.0	4	3.3	0	0.0	4	16.0	1	4.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
10-13	31	25.8	4	3.3	1	0.8	0	0.0	2	8.0	2	8.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
14-18	9	7.5	2	1.7	1	0.8	0	0.0	3	12.0	3	12.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Totals	94	78.3	19	15.8	7	5.8	0	0.0	17	68.0	8	32.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Table 8B. Level of Learning Disabilities Willing to Consider in Adopting by Age of Child

AGE OF CHILD	All Respondents (N=512) Level of Disability								Barrier Met (N=292) Level of Disability								Barrier Not Met (N=75) Level of Disability							
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-5	56	10.9	79	15.4	18	3.5	3	0.6	29	9.9	50	17.1	11	3.8	3	1.0	12	16.0	8	10.7	1	1.3	0	0.0
6-9	20	3.9	74	14.5	41	8.0	7	1.4	12	4.1	38	13.0	25	8.6	4	1.4	1	1.3	9	12.0	5	6.7	3	4.0
10-13	20	3.9	76	14.8	46	9.0	4	0.8	5	1.7	42	14.4	29	9.9	2	0.7	10	13.3	9	12.0	9	12.0	0	0.0
14-18	6	1.2	32	6.3	26	5.1	4	0.8	4	1.4	16	5.5	19	6.5	3	1.0	1	1.3	3	4.0	3	4.0	1	1.3
Totals	102	19.9	261	51.0	131	25.6	18	3.5	50	17.1	146	50.0	84	28.8	12	4.1	24	32.0	29	38.7	18	24.0	4	5.3

AGE OF CHILD	Approved and Waiting (N=120) Level of Disability								Waiting for Homestudy (N=25) Level of Disability							
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-5	10	8.3	18	15.0	4	3.3	0	0.0	5	20.0	3	12.0	2	8.0	0	0.0
6-9	5	4.2	24	20.0	11	9.2	0	0.0	2	8.0	3	12.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
10-13	4	3.3	23	19.2	7	5.8	2	1.7	1	4.0	2	8.0	1	4.0	0	0.0
14-18	1	0.8	7	5.8	4	3.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	24.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Totals	20	16.7	72	60.0	26	21.7	2	1.7	8	32.0	14	56.0	3	12.0	0	0.0

Table 8C. Level of Emotional Problems Willing to consider in Adopting by Age of Child

AGE OF CHILD	All Respondents (N=512) Level of Disability								Barrier Met (N=292) Level of Disability								Barrier Not Met (N=75) Level of Disability							
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-5	61	11.9	77	15.0	16	3.1	2	0.4	30	10.3	54	18.5	7	2.4	2	0.7	11	14.7	7	9.3	3	4.0	0	0.0
6-9	30	5.9	75	14.6	34	6.6	3	0.6	17	5.8	40	13.7	20	6.8	2	0.7	3	4.0	9	12.0	5	6.7	1	1.3
10-13	20	3.9	68	13.3	51	10.0	7	1.4	5	1.7	35	12.0	32	11.0	6	2.1	11	14.7	9	12.0	7	9.3	1	1.3
14-18	6	1.2	27	5.3	31	6.1	4	0.8	5	1.7	13	4.5	22	7.5	2	0.7	1	1.3	5	6.7	1	1.3	1	1.3
Totals	117	22.9	247	48.2	132	25.8	16	3.1	57	19.5	142	48.6	81	27.7	12	4.1	26	34.7	30	40.0	16	21.3	3	4.0

AGE OF CHILD	Approved and Waiting (N=120) Level of Disability								Waiting for Homestudy (N=25) Level of Disability							
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-5	13	10.8	15	12.5	4	3.3	0	0.0	7	28.0	1	4.0	2	8.0	0	0.0
6-9	8	6.7	23	19.2	9	7.5	0	0.0	2	8.0	3	12.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
10-13	4	3.3	20	16.7	12	10.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	16.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
14-18	0	0.0	4	3.3	7	5.8	1	0.8	0	0.0	5	20.0	1	4.0	0	0.0
Totals	25	20.8	62	51.7	32	26.7	1	0.8	9	36.0	13	52.0	3	12.0	0	0.0

Table 8D. Level of Physical Disabilities Willing to Consider in Adopting by Age of Child

AGE OF CHILD	All Respondents (N=512) Level of Disability								Barrier Met (N=292) Level of Disability								Barrier Not Met (N=75) Level of Disability							
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-5	60	11.7	65	12.7	27	5.3	4	0.8	26	8.9	45	15.4	18	6.2	4	1.4	14	18.7	4	5.3	3	4.0	0	0.0
6-9	31	6.1	65	12.7	37	7.2	9	1.8	15	5.1	39	13.4	19	6.5	6	2.1	2	2.7	7	9.3	7	9.3	2	2.7
10-13	33	6.4	72	14.1	33	6.4	8	1.6	8	2.7	43	14.7	20	6.8	7	2.4	13	17.3	8	10.7	6	8.0	1	1.3
14-18	10	2.0	27	5.3	23	4.5	8	1.6	7	2.4	13	4.5	16	5.5	6	2.1	1	1.3	5	6.7	2	2.7	0	0.0
Totals	134	26.2	229	44.7	120	23.4	29	5.7	56	19.2	140	47.9	73	25.0	23	7.9	30	40.0	24	32.0	18	24.0	3	4.0

AGE OF CHILD	Approved and Waiting (N=120) Level of Disability								Waiting for Homestudy (N=25) Level of Disability							
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-5	14	11.7	12	10.0	6	5.0	0	0.0	6	24.0	4	16.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
6-9	12	10.0	16	13.3	11	9.2	1	0.8	2	8.0	3	12.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
10-13	11	9.2	20	16.7	5	4.2	0	0.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	2	8.0	0	0.0
14-18	1	0.8	6	5.0	4	3.3	1	0.8	1	4.0	3	12.0	1	4.0	1	4.0
Totals	38	31.7	54	45.0	26	21.7	2	1.7	10	40.0	11	44.0	3	12.0	1	4.0

Table 8E. Highest Level of Disability (MR, LD, EP, PD) Willing to Consider in Adopting by Age of Child

AGE OF CHILD	All Respondents (N=512) Level of Disability								Barrier Met (N=292) Level of Disability								Barrier Not Met (N=75) Level of Disability							
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-5	32	6.3	78	15.2	41	8.0	5	1.0	13	4.5	48	16.4	27	9.2	5	1.7	8	10.7	8	10.7	5	6.7	0	0.0
6-9	12	2.3	59	11.5	57	11.1	14	2.7	5	1.7	30	10.3	35	12.0	9	3.1	0	0.0	7	9.3	7	9.3	4	5.3
10-13	7	1.4	53	10.4	71	13.9	15	2.9	1	0.3	26	8.9	40	13.7	11	3.8	5	6.7	8	10.7	13	17.3	2	2.7
14-18	1	0.2	14	2.7	39	7.6	14	2.7	0	0.0	6	2.1	26	8.9	10	3.4	1	1.3	2	2.7	4	5.3	1	1.3
Totals	52	10.2	204	39.8	208	40.6	48	9.4	19	6.5	110	37.7	128	43.8	35	12.0	14	18.7	25	33.3	29	38.7	7	9.3

AGE OF CHILD	Approved and Waiting (N=120) Level of Disability								Waiting for Homestudy (N=25) Level of Disability							
	None		Mild		Moderate		Severe		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0-5	6	5.0	19	15.8	7	5.8	0	0.0	5	20.0	3	12.0	2	8.0	0	0.0
6-9	5	4.2	19	15.8	15	12.5	1	0.8	2	8.0	3	12.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
10-13	1	0.8	17	14.2	16	13.3	2	1.7	0	0.0	2	8.0	2	8.0	0	0.0
14-18	0	0.0	2	1.7	8	6.7	2	1.7	0	0.0	4	16.0	1	4.0	1	4.0
Totals	12	10.0	57	47.5	46	38.3	5	4.2	7	28.0	12	48.0	5	20.0	1	4.0

Table 9. Selected Characteristics of Respondents by Number of Reported Barriers to Adoption for Seven Categories

Marital Status by Race (N=300)	Number of Homestudy Barriers by Category													
	1		2		3		4		5		6		7	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Married (217)														
Black (7)	1	(14.3)	2	(28.6)	2	(28.6)	2	(28.6)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Hispanic (1)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(100)
White (194)	32	(16.5)	64	(33.0)	53	(27.3)	28	(14.4)	14	(7.2)	2	(1.0)	1	(0.5)
Other (15)	2	(13.3)	3	(20.0)	4	(26.7)	4	(26.7)	2	(13.3)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Single Female (48)														
Black (7)	2	(28.6)	2	(28.6)	3	(42.9)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Hispanic (1)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
White (40)	6	(15.0)	10	(25.0)	15	(37.5)	5	(12.5)	4	(10.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Other Female (19)														
White (17)	2	(11.8)	6	(35.3)	3	(17.6)	5	(29.4)	1	(5.9)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Other (2)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(50.0)	1	(50.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Single Male (10)														
Black (1)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
White (9)	0	(0.0)	2	(22.2)	5	(55.6)	2	(22.2)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Other Male (6)														
Black (1)	0	(0.0)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
White (5)	0	(0.0)	3	(60.0)	2	(40.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Totals	46	(15.3)	93	(31.0)	87	(29.0)	48	(16.0)	22	(7.3)	2	(0.7)	2	(0.7)

Table 10. Selected Characteristics of Respondents and Children Sought for Respondents Who Experienced Barriers to Adoption

Marital Status by Race (N=300)	Race/Ethnicity of Child Sought															
	Black		Hispanic		White		Hispanic or White		Foreign Born		Any Race		Hisp, White or Foreign		Black or Biracial		Other	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Married (217)																		
Black (7)	4	(57.1)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(14.3)	2	(28.6)
Hispanic (1)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(100)
White (194)	0	(0.0)	4	(2.1)	47	(24.5)	21	(10.9)	9	(4.7)	32	(16.7)	27	(14.1)	4	(2.1)	48	(25.0)
Other (15)	2	(13.3)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(6.7)	0	(0.0)	3	(20.0)	1	(6.7)	1	(6.7)	7	(46.7)
Single Female (48)																		
Black (7)	4	(57.1)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(14.3)	2	(28.6)
Hispanic (1)																		
White (40)	0	(0.0)	3	(7.5)	5	(12.5)	6	(15.0)	1	(2.5)	7	(17.5)	7	(17.5)	1	(2.5)	10	(25.0)
Other Female (19)																		
White (17)	0	(0.0)	2	(12.5)	1	(6.3)	3	(18.8)	0	(0.0)	2	(12.5)	7	(43.8)	0	(0.0)	1	(6.3)
Other (2)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(50.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(50.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Single Male (10)																		
Black (1)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
White (9)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(11.1)	1	(11.1)	3	(33.3)	1	(11.1)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	3	(33.3)
Other Male (6)																		
Black (1)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
White (5)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(20.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	2	(40.0)	2	(40.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
Totals	12	(4.1)	9	(3.0)	56	(18.9)	32	(10.8)	13	(4.4)	48	(16.2)	44	(14.9)	8	(2.7)	74	(25.0)

Table 10 (Continued)

Homestudy Experiences						
Turned Down N (%)	Exp. Delays N (%)	HS Comp./ No Plac. N (%)	Did not Submit App. N (%)	Withdrew Applicat N (%)	Rejected for HS N (%)	Rejected for Adoption N (%)
3 (42.9)	3 (42.9)	3 (42.9)	4 (57.1)	2 (28.6)	2 (28.6)	2 (28.6)
1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)
114 (59.4)	69 (35.8)	65 (33.9)	127 (65.5)	44 (22.7)	70 (36.1)	31 (16.0)
10 (66.7)	10 (66.7)	5 (33.3)	9 (60.0)	3 (20.0)	7 (46.7)	2 (13.3)
3 (42.9)	2 (28.6)	2 (28.6)	5 (71.4)	0 (0.0)	2 (28.6)	1 (14.3)
1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
21 (52.5)	15 (37.5)	16 (40.0)	32 (80.0)	8 (20.0)	13 (32.5)	6 (15.0)
10 (62.5)	9 (56.3)	7 (43.8)	13 (76.5)	2 (11.8)	5 (29.4)	2 (11.8)
2 (100)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)
0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
7 (77.8)	4 (44.4)	4 (44.4)	4 (44.4)	1 (11.1)	5 (55.6)	2 (22.2)
0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
3 (60.0)	3 (60.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (40.0)	2 (40.0)	1 (20.0)	1 (20.0)
175 (58.9)	118 (39.7)	105 (35.4)	171 (57.6)	65 (21.9)	109 (36.7)	49 (16.5)

Table 10 (Continued)

Oldest Age of Child Considered Adopting								Highest Level of Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child							
0 - 1		2 - 5		6 - 9		10 - 13		14 - 18		None		Mild		Moderate		Severe	
N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
0	(0.0)	1	(14.3)	5	(71.4)	0	(0.0)	1	(14.3)	0	(0.0)	4	(57.1)	3	(42.9)	0	(0.0)
0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)
12	(6.3)	54	(28.6)	50	(26.5)	48	(25.4)	25	(13.2)	14	(7.3)	70	(36.5)	84	(43.8)	24	(12.5)
0	(0.0)	3	(20.0)	2	(13.3)	4	(26.7)	6	(40.0)	0	(0.0)	5	(33.3)	8	(53.3)	2	(13.3)
0	(0.0)	3	(42.9)	2	(28.6)	1	(14.3)	0	(0.0)	2	(28.6)	4	(57.1)	1	(14.3)	0	(0.0)
0	(0.0)	14	(35.0)	13	(32.5)	9	(22.5)	4	(10.0)	2	(5.0)	17	(42.5)	19	(47.5)	2	(5.0)
0	(0.0)	7	(43.8)	2	(12.5)	7	(43.8)	0	(0.0)	1	(5.9)	8	(47.1)	6	(35.3)	2	(11.8)
0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	2	(100)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(50.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(50.0)
0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)
0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	3	(33.3)	3	(33.3)	3	(33.3)	0	(0.0)	1	(11.1)	5	(55.6)	3	(33.3)
0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(100)	0	(0.0)
0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(20.0)	1	(20.0)	3	(60.0)	0	(0.0)	1	(20.0)	4	(80.0)	0	(0.0)
12	(4.1)	82	(28.1)	80	(27.4)	76	(26.0)	42	(14.4)	19	(6.4)	112	(37.7)	132	(44.4)	34	(11.4)

Table 11A. Barriers to Adoption Reported by White Married Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider	Adoption Barrier Categories						
	Turned Down N (%)	Exp. Delays N (%)	HS Comp/ No Plac. N (%)	Did Not Submit App. N (%)	Withdrew Application N (%)	Rejected for Homestudy N (%)	Rejected for Adoption N (%)
White (47)							
Age (0-1) (N=5)							
None (3)	0 (0.0)	1 (33.3)	1 (33.3)	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Mild (1)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (2-5) (N=12)							
None (3)	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	3 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (66.7)
Mild (3)	1 (33.3)	0 (0.0)	2 (66.7)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	0 (0.0)	1 (33.3)
Moderate (3)	3 (100)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)	0 (0.0)	2 (66.7)	0 (0.0)
Severe (2)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (6-9) (N=12)							
Mild (6)	3 (50.0)	1 (16.7)	2 (33.3)	5 (83.3)	3 (50.0)	1 (16.7)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (5)	2 (40.0)	2 (40.0)	1 (20.0)	1 (20.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (40.0)	0 (0.0)
Severe (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Age (10-13) (N=16)							
Mild (8)	5 (62.5)	4 (50.0)	3 (37.5)	6 (75.0)	2 (25.0)	2 (25.0)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (7)	4 (57.1)	4 (57.1)	4 (57.1)	3 (42.9)	2 (28.6)	4 (57.1)	2 (28.6)
Severe (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)
Age (14-18) (N=2)							
Moderate (2)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)
White - Sub-total	24 (51.1)	18 (38.3)	17 (36.2)	29 (61.7)	12 (25.5)	13 (27.7)	7 (14.9)
White and Other (118)							
Age (0-1) (N=5)							
None (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Mild (2)	1 (50.0)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
Moderate (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Severe (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Age (2-5) (N=33)							
None (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Mild (16)	11 (68.8)	4 (25.0)	5 (31.2)	10 (62.5)	2 (12.5)	10 (62.5)	1 (6.3)
Moderate (14)	9 (64.3)	4 (28.6)	5 (35.7)	9 (64.3)	0 (0.0)	6 (42.9)	5 (35.7)
Severe (2)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)
Age (6-9) (N=30)							
None (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Mild (10)	5 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	5 (50.0)	6 (60.0)	3 (30.0)	5 (50.0)	1 (10.0)
Moderate (12)	8 (66.7)	8 (66.7)	3 (25.0)	10 (83.3)	0 (0.0)	5 (41.7)	0 (0.0)
Severe (7)	4 (57.1)	5 (71.4)	0 (0.0)	6 (85.7)	1 (14.3)	3 (42.9)	0 (0.0)

Age (10-13) (N=30)							
None (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Mild (4)	1 (25.0)	2 (50.0)	2 (50.0)	2 (50.0)	1 (25.0)	1 (25.0)	1 (25.0)
Moderate (20)	12 (60.0)	7 (35.0)	8 (40.0)	13 (65.0)	5 (25.0)	5 (25.0)	5 (25.0)
Severe (5)	5 (100)	3 (60.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (20.0)	2 (40.0)	4 (80.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (14-18) (N=21)							
Mild (3)	1 (33.3)	0 (0.0)	1 (33.3)	1 (33.3)	1 (33.3)	1 (33.3)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (13)	8 (61.5)	4 (30.8)	5 (38.5)	9 (69.2)	4 (30.8)	8 (61.5)	2 (15.4)
Severe (5)	2 (40.0)	2 (40.0)	1 (20.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (20.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
White & Other : Sub-total	71 (60.8)	43 (36.4)	36 (30.5)	72 (61.0)	23 (19.5)	52 (44.1)	17 (14.4)
Foreign Only (10)							
Age (0-1) (N=2)							
Mild (2)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	2 (100)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (2-5) (N=3)							
None (3)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	3 (100)	0 (0.0)
Mild (2)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (6-9) (N=3)							
None (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Mild (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (14-18) (N=1)							
Moderate (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Foreign: Sub-total	8 (80.0)	3 (30.0)	5 (50.0)	7 (70.0)	1 (10.0)	5 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Other (16)							
Age (0-1) (N=2)							
Mild (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (2-5) (N=5)							
Mild (4)	3 (75.0)	3 (75.0)	1 (25.0)	4 (100)	1 (25.0)	1 (25.0)	1 (25.0)
Severe (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)
Age (6-9) (N=5)							
Mild (4)	2 (50.0)	1 (25.0)	1 (25.0)	3 (75.0)	2 (50.0)	2 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Age (10-13) (N=1)							
Mild (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (14-18) (N=3)							
Mild (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)
Severe (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Other: Sub-total	8 (50.0)	4 (25.0)	5 (31.3)	9 (56.3)	8 (50.0)	3 (18.8)	3 (18.8)
Total (191*)	111 (58.1)	68 (35.6)	63 (33.0)	117 (61.3)	44 (23.0)	73 (38.2)	27 (14.1)

*Three (3) did not respond.

Table 11B. Reasons for Not Submitting Applications for Homestudies by White Married Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting A Child

Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reason(s) Given for Not Submitting Applications for Homestudies
White (N=29)	0-1	None	1	"The Lutheran Charity would not let us because we already had one child." (?)
	0-1	Mild	1	"(1) Decided against Foreign Adoption (2) Was told members of contributing churches were given priority and we probably would not be accepted for that reason." (IN, 84)
	0-1	Moderate	1	"The waiting list was too long." (CA, 77)
	2-5	None	3	"Sent inquiries to 28 agencies. The only agencies willing to send applications were for severely handicapped children or foreign children." (81) "Had to pay so much money." (IA, 77) "The total cost would have been $13,000 which we felt was a bit ridiculous." (GA, 83)
	2-5	Mild	2	"Did not place healthy white children under age of 5; had to travel and stay in South America; were not of specified religion." (?) "We were told at age 35 to 36, we were too old to apply." (IN, 82)
	2-5	Moderate	2	* "All 3 agencies in area requested that multiple applications not be filed." (NY, 78) " . . . House, 1982 and seemed to be gray market." " . . . 1982 - Did want to house birth mother." " . . . House - 1982 - Would like to have domestic adoption." " . . . Home - 1984 - paper of fundamentalist faith - statement was hard for us to do." "Many others (27) refused us because of age or biological children we had." (82-84)
	2-5	Severe	1	"They wanted too much money and I am deaf and the agencies did not answer my questions if I could adopt - only wanted money." (77)
	6-9	Mild	5	"They were not taking applications for babies." (OH, 78-83) "Age of husband prevented us from being considered for a newborn/infant at these agencies." (CA, 82) "Lack of encouragement from the agency." (MA, 77-84) * "Another agency better able to meet our needs." (PA, 80) "At the time we were told they were not taking application but to keep calling." (MA,76)
	6-9	Moderate	1	"I was very discouraged by all agencies contacted. None were accepting applications. None would tell when they would - ond said people lined up several days before and they took the first 150 - but had no real supply of babies. One related ridiculous regulations." (PA, 83)
	10-13	Mild	6	* "Wanted another child." (RI, 67) "We never heard from the agency after we applied for the Sunday child." (?) "1st agency required over $10,000 fee. 2nd agency would not accept us for American children because we're over 35-40; but would place Koreans (which were acceptable except cost - over $500 -$1000) (SC, 83) "They would not accept applications or put us on their list due to it being 5 years long." (WV, 83) "Agencies either 1) inactive in placement, currently 2) not accepting applications, 3) require certain church affiliation, or 4) require age under 36 for all applicants." (IA, 83) "Cost." (82)
	10-13	Moderate	3	"There was a $100.00 charge to apply for a homestudy and a 6 month wait for the homestudy. We were afriad we would lose our money." (IA, 82) "Agencies were discouraging. Fees were too high." (MA, 79) "Delay for homestudy." (VA, 84)
	10-13	Severe	1	* "We were correctly referred to the state agency because of the status of the child we wished to adopt." (IL, 83)
	14-18	Moderate	2	"Poor guidance." (74) "They seem too picky. Want to present us to a board before even a homestudy or talking with us." (FL, 82)

White and Other (N=72)	0-1	None	1	"We were told by the time we were to the top of the list we would be 'too old' for baby. I was then 39, my husband was 36." (NM, 81)
	0-1	Mild	1	"To love, understand and have fun with a child. Ms. F . . . said please save my child. She's my sunshine. I'm looking for a child to be my sunshine too." (?)
	2-5	Mild	10	"We were ineligible because of age of my husband and we had not been married 3 years at that time." (KS, 81-83) "1) Told we could not be considered because we have other children 2) Told 5 year wait for legal risk child (no pre-schoolers)"(MA, 81-82) "Long waiting list, too expensive." (OR, 82; VA, 84) "Health and Welfare. They said forget it if you have children of your own." (ID, 81) "They told us we did not qualify because we had two bio. children. (This was the Department of Health and Welfare). The other 2, we were the wrong religion." (ID, 80) "Decided to wait or waiting for them to be in San Diego Co. for service." (CA, 83-84) *"They would not accept an application for foreign adoption." (NC, 82-83) "Refused to consider us because we had two bio children die." (AR, 82-83) "Wait would be up to 7 years." (MD, ?) "Was told at age 39 my husband was to old to be a father." (?)
	2-5	Moderate	9	"Agency refused to forward application 'because we are white'." (IL, 81-83) "We were asked how much money we made and were told that we could not qualify for adoption." (CA, 76) *"Decided foreign special needs placement would be too expensive for us." (MN, 83) "In 79 financial reasons. In 81 we were living in WI and needed an agency licensed in Minn. and Wisconsin. (MN, 79 & 81) "Too costly." (TX, 76; CA, 78) "Would do no use - wouldn't accept Jehovah's Witnesses." (AL, ?) "A. At that time, the State Social Service agency was not taking any applications (Evan for older handicapped) B. After talking to worker at NICA for about an hour, took application home, but it became apparent our budget couldn't handle an overseas adoption in near future and she was quite negative about any hope for in - U.S. adoption, so we decided to have another biological child." (ID, 82) "Not of appropriate religion. Money wanted from agency with no committment for child placement." (MD, 82) "They did not appear interested, concerned, or businesslike. No time given for wait." (NM, 81)
	2-5	Severe	1	"Most agencies simply did not encourage applying for the types of children we were interested in." (80-81)
	6-9	None	1	"Too expensive." (WA, 84)
	6-9	Mild	6	"The cost was more money than we could afford." (VT, 77-78) "Overly complex forms; 2) Data sent with forms implied we would not be eligible for that agency. (70s) "1 Exorbitant fee. 2) Very long waiting list (7 yrs.)." (IL, 83) "Too long of wait. expense." (IA, 80-81) "The restriction placed upon the parents after adoption." (IN, 83) "They were discontinuing adoption services in a year or 2. They didn't sound as if they could meet our needs based on comments at a preadoption meeting." (MD, 81)
	6-9	Moderate	10	"Too expensive." (OK, 83) "They told us they had no need for a family like ours." (78-83) "The person contacted made it sound impossible for us." (AK, 71) "In the summer of 1980 we submitted a preliminary app. to our local agency. Were told there would a long wait. Called several times, told the same thing. We still have not heard anything!!! Since then we have adopted a Korean baby thru a different agency." (?) "Did not agree with how things were done." (IN, 83) "We submitted our first application to state office in Chico. The office was moved to Sacramento where all of our files werelost. We never submitted another application." (CA, 82) "The agencies were not accepting any more names to add to their waiting list for applications. Also with some agencies I wasn't of the 'right' faith, married long enough." (PA, 82-84) (10 agencies) "Wrong religion." (TN, 82)

			"A. Long 7 to 10 year waiting lists - that was only a consideration of application - nothing definite on their part. B. Very expensive C. Large non-refundable application fee." (IA, 83) "Agencies were not willing to accept applications at this time." (PA, 83)
6-9	Severe	6	"Cost." (FL, 83) * "In 1977 we applied to adopt. They found us a 1 year old with Spina Bifida but becuase of his extensive need for medical care and our large family, when it was time for the adoption they suggested Legal Guardianship. We took . . . as a Legal Guardian . .. He's been ours ever since." (CA, 79) "They asked for at least $2,000 for an older child that they would find among children in state foster care and we could get the child ourselves without paying anything." (GA, 82) "Costs too high, not interested in using listing books to track down children." (PA, 78-79) "Waiting time too long." (NJ, 82) "They placed only new born infants and we didn't qualify." (TX, 82 & 83)
10-13	None	1	"The lady was rude and very negative." (WA, 83)
10-13	Mild	2	"Monetary amount charges, religious requirements." (TX, 83) "We were trying to adopt a child we knew but were denied. Because of the way we were treated we opted to now go though a private agency for other children." (ID, 82)
10-13	Moderate	13	"2 agencies - cost involved; 1 agency - reputation was poor and Maine DHS had put a moratorium on placements in the agency's homes." (ME 82; OR 84) "They were very negative in their presentation of the possibilities of ever adopting the type and ages of children." (IA, 82) "Didn't feel comfortable with the agency response to us in each (3) case." (UT, 77) "Cost-expense (2) No encouragement, enthusiasm at all from agency worker on phone. Vauge answers to my questions on procedure to be followed." (NY, 82) "Fee and received foster girl by then - but I did send information on to more potential adoptive parents when asked at a NFAPA meeting." (NE, 82) "We inquired into WACAP. We could not afford their fees." (WA, 81-82) "Public agency and three private agneices in Canton, would not accept any application. Cleveland and Warren would accept application, but we found an alternative. One small private agency in our area agreed to do a home-study." (OH, 82) (6 agencies) "I called the agency about a child advertised in the Boston Globe. Since the child was not yet legally free they told me it would be too far the worker to travel (5 hours). Also there were 75 inquiries about this child." (?) "Va-delaying in obtaining homestudy (long wait). DC - unrealistic requirements and fees." (VA, DC, 82) "Financial money was stressed; separate rooms for each child; workers made you feel that you were wasting your time and theirs." (CA, 73) "They refused to accept applications due to backlog." (OK, 82) "Agencies seemed more inclined to focus on infants or 'perfect toddlers.' They were reluctant to deal openly with family willing to adopt special needs child. Also - one agency refused to discuss fees a/o procedures over the phone. We had to attend session for prospective adoptive parents to get any information. The fee (even for a special needs child) was outrageous! We could not afford it." (VA, 83) "Loss of a child - this was only agency we could find." (VA, 79) "All out of state and not encouraging." (?)
10-13	Severe	1	"(1) financial (2) would do homestudy but not place with us (3) refused to place black child with white parents (kids are mixed)." (MO, ?)
14-18	Mild	1	"Requirements to strict. (?, 75)
14-18	Moderate	9	"Did not work in Idaho." (OR, 74) "Length of wait too long." (WY, 83) "Cost and amount of red tape involved." (?, 77 and 83) (10 agencies) "At the time we wanted to adopt but didn't know about the 'system' - We were told their was a long waiting list and their were no children at the time freed for adoption. At a later time we found out there was a lot of children but none in our 'county' - this was when we started looking at Blue Books." (NY, 77)

				"Friends had a great deal of difficulty with social worker at this agency." (NY, 83) "Wanted money down with no guarantee of ever trying. Seemed not to do a booming business." (IA, 78) "They were suppose to get back to us but never did. We were contacted by the public welfare adoption agency in Concord so never bothered to call them back." (NH, 84) "Agencies not accepting applications." (CA, 75) "Agencies didn't seem enthusiastic about special needs placements." (WI, 82)
Foreign (N=7)	0-1	Mild	2	"This agency places children from Latin American children - but the waiting period was 2 or more years." (ND, 83) "Too long a waiting list for infants." (WA, OR, 83)
	2-5	None	2	"Questionable whether we would ever get a referral for a child - very indefinite." (IL, 81) "They would not involve themselves with studies for foreign born children." (IL, 74 & 78)
	2-5	Mild	1	"City too busy - would not do for foreign adoption. County said 1 year waiting period." (PA, 84)
	6-9	Moderate	1	"Did not like their attitudes toward bi-racial adotpions, and the fact we were childless and wanted a child under 1 year." (OR, 80-81)
	14-18	Moderate	1	"Too expensive $7,000+. They sell children at these prices." (?, 82-83)
Other (N=9)	0-1	Mild	1	"We were not considered eligible because we had 2 children." (IL, 80's)
	2-5	Mild	4	*"Decided to go with the state of California because it was cheaper and because the caseworker said he would start immediately thru the state of California." (CA, 83) "They felt they could not provide a child for us." (NJ, 83) *"Another child became available through a private adoption." (ND, 82) "Agency didn't seem likely to process an application within 5 years." (NM, 77)
	6-9	Mild	3	*"Had already accepted placement on child from outside the country." (OH, 83) "We were told they would not do home studies because they had no children. We were also told they were too busy - doing what????? (OH, 81-82) "Homestudy costs excessive because we would have had to pay air fare for social worker to fly to Virginia for 3-5 interviews." (FL, 81)
	14-18	Moderate	1	"Heard negative reports, disappointed." (WA, 75)
	14-18	Severe	1	"Qualifications not met; waiting child no longer available." (?, 78-82)

*Not a barrier

Table 11C. Reasons Given for Withdrawing Applications to Adopt by White Married Respondents by Race, Oldest Age, and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons Given by White Married Respondents
White (N=12)	0-1	None	2	"Doubling of adotpion fees from 3600 to 6600 (Cath. Social Services)." (IL, 84) "Requirements of State Dept. of Pensions & Security." (AL, 84)
	2-5	Mild	1	"We were led to believe, by the social worker at the welfare that because we wanted more preplacement visits after one month since first contact, that we were not ready to adopt." (IN, 83)
	6-9	Mild	3	"Decided we would die of old age before getting homestudy. Proceeded with intercountry adoption." (MO, 81) "We could not afford to pay." (MA, 78) *"We had first applied because we have one child and I had a miscarriage after 5 mos. pregnancy. My husband and I have an incompatible RH factor, we were concerned for the health of a 3rd child. Upon a physical examination for adoption my gynecologist discovered I had cervical cancer. I had (surgery) within the year to avoid any future problems . . . We withdrew for that period of time and then my mother developed a malignancy at 58 years of age and we didn't pursue the adoption until after her death in September of 1980." (AL, 76)
	10-13	Mild	2	The agency told us we were not married long enough." (WA, 81) "We had waited approximately four years for placement after being approved." (CO, 81)
		Moderate	2	"Homestudy was to slow. Waited 4 months just to get application - I was transfered on my job & cancelled homestudy." (NY, 82) "After two years of waiting, red tape to disappointments, and five years of no success in pregnancy (plus 4 miscarriages) (MI, 83)
		Severe	1	"This private agency rejected us. In order to apply to the state agency we had to have the application withdrawn. See question 12." (IL, 83)
	14-18	Moderate	1	"Poor, rotten, lazy, useless, lieing, cheating, manipulative, BIGOTED case workers!" (82)
White and Other (N=23)	0-1	None	1	"We adopted a baby privately from the mother through our attorney after long waits with agencies. We want to wait a year or two for another baby." (NM, 81)
	0-1	Mild	2	"Lady from agency was arrogant and bad news." (?) "Waiting period after completion was to long. We had it there for four years when they were finally getting around to talking to us." (CA, 83)
	2-5	Mild	2	*"We decided that there were too many problems of acceptance from our families." (GA, 83) "We were offered 3 severely handicapped children. We had requested a child without severe handicaps. We were told that because we both work with handicapped children, we would be offered such children." (CA,82)
	6-9	Mild	3	"They told us it could be up to 2 years before they could get us a child." (NC, 80) "Child placed with us thru another agency." (VA, 83) *Became pregnant with 3rd child and felt we couldn't economically handle more than 3 children." (VA, 82)
	6-9	Severe	1	*"Positive pregnancy test." (TX, 83)
	10-13	Mild	1	"The background given were entirely misleading. We were not told the truth about this particular sibling group until after we were chosen." (NY, 83)
	10-13	Moderate	5	"Changed agencies." (VT, 82)

				"Decided to go with an overseas adoption rather than local - we had gotten nowhere locally 1 year after completing homestudy." (IL, 82) "We disrupted a placement because of previously unknown (unrecognized) severe emotional disturbance which institutionalization of approximately 1 year for a child." (VA, 83) "Tired of waiting; circumstances of home changed." (OK, 83) "5-6 year waiting list yet wanted large sums of $ before homestudy started. In fact wanted $ with first interview, 3 mo. after we applied." (PA, 83)
	10-13	Severe	2	"Catholic Social Services told us we were to old to adopt." (PA, 79) "Become obvious after a length of time that a child placement was very unlikely." (MO, 81)
	14-18	Mild	1	"Only children available to us were very emotionally disturbed or in one instance county changed its mind and left child with foster parents." (NY, 83)
	14-18	Moderate	4	"Waited 4½ years for older child; incorrect inf.in their file - they listed us as 'adoption disruption' when we declined referral after weekend visit." (ID, 83) "We were able to convince AASK to piggyback us. The local State agency wouldn't move on us - submitted Inquiry Form, but no further action until after 3 mos. wait, so withdrew as applicant when AASK accepted us." (CA, 82) *"Pregnancy." (TX, 74) "Custodial agency unwilling to place specific child with us." (CO, 82)
	14-18	Severe	1	"Cost,non availability of children." (OR, 83)
Foreign (N=1)	6-9	Moderate	1	"A surprise pregnancy (after 9 years) agency wouldn't place - now we want more time between next adoption and last baby - as our oldest is only 2½ years." (OR, 83)
Other (N=8)	0-1	Moderate	1	"The uprooted heartache of being told our baby would becoming anyday. We found out their placement ratio vs. # of families approved and figured ourwait could be maximum of 10 years." (NH, 83)
	2-5	Mild	1	"Didn't seem like they'd make a placement." (NH, 78)
	2-5	Severe	1	"Agency appeared to be offering the child to the highest bidder." (TX, 82)
	6-9	Mild	2	"Lack of children available - decided to pursue independent foreign adoption." (OH, 82) "Applied to Alexandria agency in 1976 and they never started homestudy." (VA, 76) "New Orleans agency told us in 1981 that we would have to wait 6 years for a homestudy and they do not place in families with one member over 45 years. Husband was 45 in 1983." (LA, 83).
	10-13	Mild	1	"Agency changed policy of placing biracial/black with white parents - we presently have a bi-racial adopted child and don't consider ourselves a white family." (WA, 82)
	14-18	Mild	1	"We were ten months into our state approval. In two months everything would have to be updated. We had spent five years with agency as foster parents, knew several social workers, went to all the adoptive meetings that exposed prospective parents to available children. It became apparent after applying for several children of a race different than our that we would never be assigned. Three social workers also told us this fact." (MO, 83)
	14-18	Moderate	1	"Agency discriminated against us in placement because we had no mulatto children, only racially pure." (WA, 77)

*Not a barrier.

Table 11D. Reasons Agencies Gave and Respondents Believe Why They Were Rejected for a Homestudy Request by White Married Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons for Rejection
White (N=13)	2-5	Moderate	2	"Marriage not blessed in Catholic Church (not married by priest)." (NH, 83) "A parent who was agnostic not acceptable." (NY, 78)
	2-5	Severe	1	"One said the reason we were not considered because I am deaf. The other agency said it was because my husband is a recovering alcoholic. He has been sober 4 years." R: "Because of my handicap. I have more kids in the neighborhood in my apt. than the families do. The kids love J... and I." (PA, 83)
	6-9	Mild	1	"We were not married long enough. We asked how long you had to be married. Was told 3 years." (MA, 76)
	6-9	Moderate	2	"Put on waiting list after 3 years of marriage." R: "No need for waiting families." (AR, 76) "Too many children (we have one child). Wrong religious affiliation." R: "Because of the strict limits placed by agencies due to lack of children." (IA, 83)
	6-9	Severe	1	"Think of all young couples waiting." R: "Age. 2nd - Bi-racial child must be in black or bi-racial home." R: "Age of child and our age." (NY)
	10-13	Mild	2	"I had 3 children of my own." R: "Not enough children." (RI, 67) "The agency told us that we were not married long enough." (WA, 81)
	10-13	Moderate	4	"Would not consider us because we have two children." (IA, 80) "No home studies being done because case worker on maternity leave. Waited 4 months just to get application." (NY, 82) "Thought we should have biological children even though we have a genetic problem - they wouldn't consider childless couple for older children, although wife is a teacher." R:"We are a 'different' couple - agency didn't make any efforts to understand us. Worker was not experienced in placing special needs children." (MA, 78) "Infant not available to us though was 2nd marriage with no children, told no probable pregnancy, esp. after 4th miscarriage (that was cancerous) as we had two biological children from previous marriage." (MI, 81)
White and Other (N=53)	0-1	None	1	*"We had a baby arranged in Mexico but we had trouble getting the homestudy from 2 agencies. One said the agencys' load was 'too heavy' with present clients. The other said the first agency should do the study since we contacted the other first." R: "The first agency decided we were too old and then they didn't want us competing out of country with their operation. The second agency seemed to be afraid of the red tape (pressure in the social work field for kids." (WM, 83)
	0-1	Mild	1	"An excuse for not being of their religion." R: "I don't have any children." (82)
	0-1	Severe	1	"There are no normal children to adopt." R: "I believe it was because when nervous my husband doesn't respond very well to people but he is in actuality a very intelligent and caring person if only given the opportunity to prove it." (ID, 81)
	2-5	None	1	"We are on a waiting list and maybe in 5-6 years will be given a homestudy. This is the state agency . . . and the way it operates." (IL, 83)
	2-5	Mild	10	"Age (50)of husband." (KS, 82) "Wrong religion." (IN, 84) *"Didn't handle or get involved in foreign adoptions." R: "General fear, ignorance and prejudice regarding foreign adoptions in this area." (OH, 82) *"Backlogged on foreign adoptions" (CA, 84) *"They would not accept an application for a foreign adoption." R: "Catholic Social Services didn't want to be bothered. County agency overloaded." (NC, 82-83)

			"My husband was over 40 (42, 43, 44)." (CA, 78, 79, 80) "Working mother." (NY, 80 to 83) "Because we had two bio children die - congenital heart disease" (AR, 82 to 83) * "Agency seemed willing to accept husband and self but Korean agency affiliated with US agency would not release child." R: "My husband and I although completely independent, are disabled - was told Korean agency had never released child where both parents are disabled." (?) "I have too many children" (MO, 84); "I had one biological child." (MO, 75) R: "Not enough social workers to do homestudies."
2-5	Moderate	6	"Husband had cancer 5 years ago" R: "Some - but why couldn't they have done homestudy as a single." (?) "I contacted the 1-800 # for the adoption list and phone #'s. Alot of the agencies we could not qualify for - others that I called told me 'no' over the phone." R: "Our age (24-25), length married (3 years in August) and we are fertile, but all of our attempted children have died, I can conceive, but my babies are born dead." (?) "1) Husband doesn't earn enough - not enough money in savings - wife would have to work after placement. (2) wife had a hysterectomy - The good Lord doesn't want you to be parents." R: "1) Financial - require mother to be home 6 years (2) more couples applied than the agency had children." (IL, 82,83) "We were told that financially we could not be considered for adoption." R: "They don't want to be bothered." (CA, 76) "Private agency - too career oriented, not settled enough. Public agency - waiting list full." R: "Private agency - income too low, agency fee is 15% of gross." (NC, 80) "Because of husband age 59 and being in a wheelchair." (CA, 83)
6-9	Mild	6	"Wife has sugar diabetes - Diabetics may not live long enough to raise a child in the agency's opinion." R: "Because of my diabetes. I have mild diabetsis only affecting my trying to have children." (ID, 74) "(1) Too big a waiting list (pre-70) (2) one DSS said they couldn't because we weren't residents of their county." (VA,80) "(1) already had a biological child. (2) already had 2 children, 'our share'."(VA, 73,81) "8 were because we weren't in their county, 8 were because we weren't of their particular faith." (IN, 83) "(1) Working mother (2) not enough money in bank (3) continuing infertility treatment" (6 agencies) R: "Discrimination for above reasons." (IL, ?)
6-9	Moderate	5	"Told us they wouldn't place black or black-mixed children with us even though wealready have a black son." (20 agencies) R: "It's not 'popular' to place black kids with white parents now. Maybe it will be in a few years if we have the patience to wait out these agency mood swings!" (78-83) "We could not make it to a meeting." (CA, 79) "(1) too much trouble for them. (2) only people without their own should adopt. (3) Special needs children do not belong in a normal home. (4) We already have too many children (five). (5) We should be satisfied with what God gave us." R: "Social workers too lazy and selfish with their own feelings and opinions." (KY, 83) "Length of marriage. We were told 1 vear. Upon completion of application we were told the requirements had changed and we needed to be marrier 3 yrs." R: "The social worker was too busy so she found an excuse." (VA, 83) "Too old" (TN, 83) (Age 39 to 36)
6-9	Severe	3	"We had biological children (2), said there were no children like we were looking for." (PA, 78-79) "My husband and I have both been married 1 time before. I have had no children. He has 3 children and he has custody of them. I am there mother who cares for them. We were refused because we have 3 children. Some agency refused us for newborn foster care because I have never had a child of my own." R: "It was a Catholic agency and we are not Catholic." (VA, 84) "We already have two children; our children are too young; we are not practicing the same religion (my husband & I)." (TX, 82-83) (3 agencies)
10-13	Mild	1	"We have not been married for the required period of 3 years. However we are 35 to 36 years old and since single parents can adopt, we feel this is discrimination." (PA, 84)
10-13	Moderate	5	"Public agency said they were not doing homestudies for white couples even if they wanted to adopt special needs or older children." (VA, 83) "No children available for a couple where one member already had children from a previous marriage. (These children however were not living even in the same state we were)." R: "Social worker was indifferent to our desire for children. Could have worked to help us see special needs options available. (Later discovered that

				the policy she stated was not even agency policy. Since have adopted 3 children thru the same agency and are waiting on 4th one.)" (UT, 77) "Were not married for 3 years." (NY, 78) "They refused allowing us to fill out an application because we have been blessed with 2 healthy little boys of our own and there were many who have no children." R:"We gave up trying and became foster parents. Were able to adopt a special needs foster child we'd had since Aug. 76. But my desire for more children made us a high risk pregnancy - boy born Oct. 77. We still want more." (NE, 74) "All (4) stated they had no children, such as we were describing, in the custody of their agency." R: These agencies were either too lazy or unable to deal with special needs adoption. Probably a combination of both." (OH, 82)
	10-13	Severe	4	"1977 - we had enough children - enjoy the ones you have (we had 6). 1982 - too soon after last adoption. R: "agencies afriad to take a chance with large family." (OR, 77, 82) "Maine DHS turned us down in 1978. We have since adopted seven children." R: "We were turned down because we already had two children." (ME, 78) "Father not sufficiently committed to adoption, income too low, children in the age range we wanted not available." R: "income/debt ratio, father's commitment." (NE, 80) "Would not place a biracial child with white parents." (MO, ?) (2 agencies)
	14-18	Mild	1	"Wrong religion (Lutheran). Not in proper diocese (Catholic). Not a mixed family (Hillcrest)." (IA, 79) (3 agencies)
	14-18	Moderate	8	"Understaffed." R: "Not asking for child of agencies main interest." (WY, 83) "Out of serviceable area due to agency lack of funds for outreach. (Agency was licensed for our county) Eventually got HS (piggyback) but initially were refused." R: "Agency's financial problems." (CA, 82) "In 80 to 81 E . . . at AASK promised us a homestudy. Then the new person in charge was . . . and he spoke of something that had happened at Family Builders and we don't know what happened since we never attended their meetings." (CA, 81) "1st 3 - they would not accept our application - distance, age, marriage length, several different reasons." 4th were not accepting any more families at that time." R: "these were all legitimate policies at the time." (TX, 70,76) "Not accepting applications - No children available." (CO, 82) "(1) Was told mother would have been too old at possible placement date (2) have natural child already, and (3) that natural child has disabilities." R: "We felt they didn't want to bother since they had no children available (as told to us then)." (MO, 77) (5 agencies. Mother in 77 was 29) "We had 3 biological children and the agency said that we didn't need anymore. They also said that there were not any children available for adoption. We had asked for an older child. R: "Personnel at the agency were uninterested in adoption." (AL, 69,74) "We disrupted with a child and they received an unsolicited negative letter." R: "Fear on their part - never talked to us about their questions." (OR, 83)
Foreign Only (N=5)	0-1	Mild	1	"The county welfare department would not do a homestudy for us for a child from the county. They claimed there were no children available - they would do me for a foreign adoption. The homestudy was done after getting a request from Probate Court." (OH, 82)
	2-5	None	3	* "Did not want to do a foreign homestudy. They did not know how to do one and weren't interested in finding out how to do me." (IL, 81) ** "They declined any involvement with the foreign adoptive program . . .regardless of agency or county." + R: "Stated their time and money was for domestic programs." (IL, 73, 74, 78) *** "1. To answer the sexual preference question we put - we would prefer a girl but would love and want a boy too. " . .. the Director said my husband's disability income would be misunderstood by the Koreans. 3. Since I would continue to teach school and my husband would be home she said the Koreans wouldn't like it." R: "Basically I feel we were rejected because of our disabilities without regard of how we have overcome them and regardless of our professional, social and economic status in life." (PA, 84) (Letter attached)
	6-9	Mild	1	"We were licensed foster parents and I thought they could do a quick update. But they wanted us to go to group meetings starting 5 months later and then into individual homestudy which would be a total of 8 months later. I got my $400 back and got it done free in one month." (IL, 83)

Other (N=3)	2-5	Mild	1	"Catholic Social Services could not do a homestudy due to a cut in funds so homestudies were being discontinued for the 'time being!'."(PA, 82)
	6-9	Mild	2	"That we wanted a 'normal, healthy child' - they did not and would not have any children of that type, therefore we would not be accepted into their program." R: "Bureaucratic red tape. (OH, 82) "Too busy - no children, they refused to do a homestudy for our foreign adoption. We were forced to have an attorney file a court order for a homestudy." R: "They didn't want the paper work any foreign adoption entails. Also, I feel they were enjoying the 'Power' of telling us we would not be permitted any child. We did complete it. However, it took a lot of hard work, fighting, frustration, etc." (OH, 81-82)

*Not a barrier.

Table 11E. Reasons Agencies Gave and Respondents Believe Why They Were Rejected for Adoption After Beginning a Homestudy by White Married Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons for Rejection
White (N=7)	2-5	None	2	"The social worker's attitude was very rude and impersonal. She sat here in my home and told me I didn't want any children after she showed some pictures in my face and asked how this grabbed me. Then I had to ask if it was a girl or boy." R: "Because as I was studying these pictures she said "My dear girl - I don't think you want children! After that I went to pieces and knew we were done. I knew it was no use to argue. I was positively speechless. But that wasn't even the clincher. To top it all off she says 'the mother really didn't want to give the child up anyway'. And I'm thinking - what kind of deal is this anyway. We were under the impression that these children were not going to be followed by a mother 10 years from now." (OH, 80)
				"Caseworker based opinoin totally on Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory Test, did not bother to get to know us, opinions he concluded from test were totally a wrong impression! Said he didn't have time to get to know us better after the second meeting!" R: "We were wanting a white, healthy infant and rejected because they wanted to get names off their waiting list; did not fit the caseworker's idea of model parents? Don't understand what kind of people they are looking for." (MI, 84)
	2-5	Mild	1	"Didn't feel we were qualified. Spouse was in trouble 14 years ago." R: "I don't think this was fair. This had happened 14 years ago when my spouse was in his early 20's." (PA, 83)
	10-13	Moderate	2	"Didn't have enough experience to adopt older children of the age we wanted. Social worker was young and had little experience - said she would want baby as a first child." R: "Agency didn't understand why a couple with no children wanted older children." (MA, 79)
				"When our regular DSS worker was transferred because of budget cuts, another took case but decided, when we rejected a 14 year old that we wanted a "too-perfect" child and said she was putting our file on the shelf." R: "Investigation into her reasoning brought out fact that worker was on part-time and wanted only clients that were immediately placable, for she had little time to devote to individual cases." (MI, 82)
	10-13	Severe	1	"We were not flexible enough." R: "The case worker, a graduate student who had made a mid-life change from engineering before or after a recent divorce couldn't judge." (IL, 83)
	14-18	Moderate	1	"Children placed with another family. (Stock answer)." (?)
White and Other (N=17)	0-1	Mild	1	"Lady was a know it all. A false statement was made by adoption agency. I plan on questioning their particular statement." R: "Too much red tap. They want blood. A false statement. Excuses - only a sick person gets a loan from a bank because they don't need it." (?)
	2-5	Mild	1	"Unapproved health of female applicant." (CA, 83)
	2-5	Moderate	5	"We had marriage counseling 4 years prior - children cause problems in a marriage - so even though problems were resolved we should reconsider wanting a family." R: "The agency wants 'perfect' families with no closet skeletons." (IL, 82)
				"The social worker simply said that in view of my strong feeling about mothering one of my own (and I don't know where she got this), that she did not feel in her right conscience that a child should be placed in our home at this time." R: "I really don't know. I guess she felt we had some problems to work out (infertility) although I've always felt some kind of 'barrier' between us (personality clash), perhaps because I come from a 'broken' home myself." (CN, 2)
				*"Not enough children at the time." (South America, 82)

				**"Rejected by Columbian, S.A. agency after homestudy completed - no reason given." (South America, 83)
				"We are Jehovah's Witnesses - and as long as Mrs. A . . . is in charge she says no witnesses will be able to adopt. For not accepting blood - but we had doctors write that they would be willing to work with us with blood substitutes which 1 doctor was trained to use and imbalances can only use as blood spoils." R: "Prejudice against religion - we don't use blood for scriptural reasons but because of beliefs many Drs. have pioneered blood substitutes which are quite acceptable for not transmitting AIDS, syphillis." (AL,?)
	2-5	Severe	1	"She was a black child and they wanted to place her in a black family, because of future emotional problems." R: "Emotionally she was sound and they felt being black and being placed in a white family would effect her present stability." (DE, 83)
	6-9	Mild	1	"Wrong religion. One placement denied because we had a foster child in our home. The foster child had been gone for 2 years to an adoptive placement by DSS had failed to update our homestudy." (VA, 82)
	10-13	Mild	1	"We had a private agency do our homestudy but were rejected by the state for this particular child we requested. We both feel the reasons for rejecting was not sufficient but pulled out to protect the child." R: "A personality conflict between myself and the social worker in charge." (ID, 82)
	10-13	Moderate	5	"In 1976 my husband was hospitalized with a nervous breakdown for 1 month - they said they didn't feel he could handle the pressure of an older child adoption - even though since 1976 he has completed seminary, served as a parish pastor for 3 years, become a father 2 more times (we had adopted daughter when he experienced the break-down). We have since adopted 9 a year old Korean girl from an abusive background - have had her over 1 year and have dealt successfully with all the problems." R: "I feel they had a 'pat' answer for anyone who has had a breakdown, no matter how long it has been since the breakdown or what has transpired since." (IL, 82)
				"Could not guarantee we would stay in N.C. for 2 or more years after adopting a child." R: "Husband was in the Navy and we moved every 3-4 years." (NC, 77)
				"We were accepted to adopt a normal 2 year old girl until a social worker at a higher level than the person who initially okayed said no." R: We had enough children and these were people who needed to adopt." (?)
				"Back problems of wife." (VA, 78)
				"Know our homestudy has been submitted - only have been notified of non-acceptance on occasion. Feel agency is very lapse. But certainly wanted their money on time. R: "Were given no reasons - don't even know anything about the children." (VA,?)
	14-18	Moderate	2	" . . Home contracted with Family Counseling Center to find a home for a 14 years old boy. We had two previous placements thru FCC, so they updated our study and . . . Home approved us. After one year of pre-placement visits, . . . Home decided child was not suited for adoption. R: "We are assertive and were advocating for the child. We had numerous differences of opinion with Director of Home. At the meeting when we were turned down, they said in front of the child, that . . . Home was the only place that had ever worker for him and they would try to have a bed for him when our placement failed." (CO, 82)
				"At Permanency Planning Hearing for foster child we wanted to adopt. (1) foster sibling family given priority and (2) State Division Policy Division to not place normal children in homes with disabilities present: and we were not allowed to have a written copy of that "Policy Decision" (3) foster child was not even normal and we met total rejection for requests for help for her." R: (1) foster care caseworker was prejudice. (2) foster case caseworker wanted the child placed elsewhere, from the beginning. But they used us for period when no one would take the foster child." (MO, 83)
Other (N=3)	2-5	Mild	1	"Felt we did not deserve another child." (NY, 83)
	2-5	Severe	1	"Various agencies because of our age." (?)
	14-18	Moderate	1	"You should go and have a baby of your own. 2nd agency. We are not placing black children with white parents." R: "Race and no children of our own." (WA, 72)

*Not a barrier.

Table 11F. Current Homestudy Application Status for White Married Respondents Who Reported a Homestudy Barrier by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider	Currently Planning to Adopt	Adoption Approved Length of Wait			Completed/Not Approved Length of Wait			Waiting for Homestudy Length of Wait			Homestudy Begun/Not Approved Length of Wait		
	N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N
White (47)													
Age (0-1) (N=5)													
None (3)	3									2*	1		
Mild (1)	1									1			
Moderate (1)	1	1											
Age (2-5) (N=12)													
None (3)	3[a]	1											
Mild (3)	1			1									
Moderate (3)	3			2						1			
Severe (2)	1[a]												
No Response (1)	1			1									
Age (6-9) (N=12)													
Mild (6)	3[a]			2									
Moderate (5)	3[a]				1					1*			
Severe (1)	0												
Age (10-13) (N=16)													
Mild (8)	5	1	1							2			1*
Moderate (7)	6[a]	1		3									
Severe (1)	1										1		
Age (14-18) (N=2)													
Moderate (2)	1[a]												
White - Subtotal	33	4	1	9	1	0	0	0	0	7	2	0	1
White and Other (118)													
Age (0-1) (N=5)													
None (1)	1			1									
Mild (2)	2									2			
Moderate (1)	0												
Severe (1)	1[a]												
Age (2-5) (N=33)													
None (1)	1									1*			
Mild (16)	13[a]	3		2	1			2		1			
Moderate (14)	9[a]			5	1								
Severe (2)	2[a]												
Age (6-9) (N=30)													
None (1)	0												
Mild (10)	5[a]	1		2									
Moderate (12)	10[a]			3					1*	3*			
Severe (7)	5[a]								1				
Age (10-13) (N=30													
None (1)	1[a]												
Mild (4)	4[a]	1		1									
Moderate (20)	14[a]	1		7				1	1		1		
Severe (5)	3[a]							1		1			

Age (14-18) (N=4)															
Mild (3)	1			1											
Moderate (13)	8[a]	1		3		1*			1						
Severe (5)	3[a]			1					1						
White & Other: Sub-total	83	7	0	26	2	1	0	6	3	8	1	0	0		
Foreign Only (10)															
Age (0-1) (N=2)															
Mild (2)	2		1	1											
Age (2-5) (N=5)															
None (3)	1		1												
Mild (2)	2							2							
Age (6-9) (N=3)															
None (1)	0														
Mild (1)	1[a]														
Moderate (1)	0														
Age (14-18) (N=1)															
Moderate (1)	1			1											
Foreign-Subtotal	7	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0		
Other (11)															
Age (0-1) (N=2)															
Mild (1)	1	1													
Moderate (1)	1[a]														
Age (2-5) (N=5)															
Mild (4)	2			1				1*							
Severe (1)	0														
Age (6-9) (N=5)															
Mild (4)	2			1				1							
Moderate (1)	0														
Age (10-13) (N=1)															
Mild (1)	1[a]														
Age (14-18) (N=3)															
Mild (1)	0														
Moderate (1)	0														
Severe (1)	0														
Other-Subtotal	7	1	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0		
Total (191**)	130	12	3	39	3	1	0	10	3	15	3	0	1		

*Believe may not be approved to adopt
**Three (3) did not respond
[a]Information not available for some respondents.

Table 12A. Barriers to Adoption Reported by Married (Other than White) Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider	Adoption Barrier Categories						
	Turned Down N (%)	Exp. Delays N (%)	HS Comp./ No Plac N (%)	Did Not Submit App N (%)	Withdrew Application N (%)	Rejected for Homestudy N (%)	Rejected for Adoption N (%)
Black Couples (7)							
Black Children (4)							
Age (2-5) (N=1)							
Mild (1)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (6-9) (N=3)							
Mild (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (2)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Black and Other (3)							
Age (6-9) (N=2)							
Mild (2)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (100)
Age (14-18) (N=1)							
Moderate (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Black Couples - Total	3 (42.9)	3 (42.9)	2 (28.6)	4 (57.1)	2 (28.6)	2 (28.6)	2 (28.6)
Hispanic Couple (1)							
Age (10-13) (N=1)							
Moderate (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)
Other Married Couples (15)							
White and Other (9)							
Age (2-5) (N=1)							
Mild (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (6-9) (N=1)							
Mild (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (10-13) (N=2)							
Moderate (2)	2 (100)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)
Age (14-18) (N=5)							
Moderate (4)	2 (50.0)	4 (100)	1 (25.0)	2 (50.0)	1 (25.0)	2 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Severe (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Black a/o Other (6)							
Age (2-5) (N=2)							
Mild (2)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
Age (6-9) (N=1)							
Moderate (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (10-13) (N=2)							
Mild (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Age (14-18) (N=1)							
Severe (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)
Other Couples - Total	10 (66.7)	10 (66.7)	4 (26.7)	9 (60.0)	3 (20.0)	7 (46.7)	2 (13.3)
Totals (N=23)	14 (60.9)	13 (56.5)	7 (30.4)	14 (60.9)	6 (26.1)	10 (43.5)	5 (21.7)

Table 12B. Reasons Given for Not Submitting Applications for Homestudies by Married (Other Than White) Respondents by Race, Oldest Age, and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race of Couples	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons Given for Not Submitting Applications for Homestudies
Black (N=4)	Black (N=3)	6-9	Mild	1	"They required all prospectives to attend a mandatory orientation meeting held on a weekday morning only. As working individuals, did not have capacity to do this." (CA, 79)
		6-9	Moderate	2	"Called agency about 3 children in newspaper. They told us they were looking for a family in the city with more income." (SC, 80) "Never received an application." (?)
	Black and Other (N=1)	6-9	Mild	1	"We had our ficals once and later had to go thru the ficals [physicals?] again. We also was told you couldn't have application with so many agencies at the same time . . ." (83)
Hispanic (N=1)	Hispanic and Other	10-13	Moderate	1	"They said we didn't make enough money." (WY, 78)
Other (N=9)	White and Other (N=6)	2-5	Mild	1	"Holt said no children were available and they were not taking applications. Health and Welfare said there would be a seven year wait and little choice." (OR, ID, 76-80)
		6-9	Mild	1	"Wanted $600 fee." (WA, 83)
		10-13	Moderate	1	"Too expensive, said we already had enough children." (WA, 82-83)
		14-18	Moderate	2	"Cost was too high." (KS, 82) "Said I was overweight." (SD, 70)
		14-18	Severe	1	"Children were not allowed to leave State of Hawaii." (HA, 81)
	Black (N=1)	2-5	Mild	1	"We had adopted through the agency once before - but when we contacted for second adoption policy had changed handling biracial couples." (MI, 82)
	Black and Other (N=2)	6-9	Moderate	1	"New Jersey had a rule to own your own home and a large savings account. The agency in Germany wanted $2,000 down payment before starting anything." (NJ., 76; Germany, 78)
		14-18	Severe	1	"We were told because we had 7 children there wasn't anyway we could qualify with the agencies." (OR, 82)

Table 12C. Reasons for Withdrawing Application to Adopt by Married (other Than White) Respondents by Race, Oldest Age, and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race of Couples	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons Given for Withdrawing Applications
Black (N=2)	Black (N=1)	2-5	Mild	1	"Saw two boys with Special Needs Program that we wanted so we switched from Catholic Charities to State Department (SNAP) then switched to UPBEAT because SNAP was not too efficient or fair. We got results with UPBEAT. (KY, 82)
	Black and Other (N=1)	14-18	Moderate	1	"Confusing to my husband and I. Maybe someone their can solve the puzzle. Everything complete. Was told we would make good parents but wasn't going to. With no reason everyone in the group was told about the same. We are very disappointed." (DE, 83)
Hispanic (N=1)	Hispanic and Other (N=1)	10-13	Moderate	1	*"Child was severely retarded. We didn't think we could handle the child." (CA, 82)
Other (N=3)	White and Other (N=1)	14-18	Moderate	1	*"Moved to Kansas." (MA, 76-77)
	Black (N=1)	2-5	Mild	1	"Agency felt we were too structured and not showing enough physical love to children presently in our home. They kept requiring more references and paper work, X-rays on all adults and children in the family. Didn't like we saw the children before contacting the agency." (MI, 82)
	Black and Other (N=1)	6-9	Moderate	1	"We have been with the agency since Dec. 81 and all this time we been told there weren't any children available which we know that's not true. It took the Agency 9 months to complete the homestudy." (SC, 84)

*Not a barrier.

Table 12D. Reasons Agencies Gave and Respondents Believe Why They Were Rejected for a Homestudy Request by Married (Other Than White) Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race of Couples	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons for Rejection of Request for Homestudy
Black (N=2)	Black (N=2)	6-9	Mild	1	"Would/could not attend orientation meeting." R: "Agency too narrow to accomodate working parents." (CA, 79)
		6-9	Moderate	1	"First agency didn't want us to apply. Called another agency. They did our application and got the 3 children for us." (SC, 80)
Hispanic (N=1)	Hispanic and Other (N=1)	10-13	Moderate	1	"Not enough medical resources here to handle Spina Bifida child." R: "Because we didn't make enough money." (ID, 82)
Other (N=7)	White and Other (N=4)	10-13	Moderate	2	"Too old and already had children." (UT, 84) "No children available; uncertainty regarding laws 'covering Native Americans'." R: "We were considered 'too picky' and also because we did not want legal risk or just be foster parents." (IL, 83-84; 6 agencies)
		14-18	Moderate	2	"Two didn't answer. One said we were to old or to sick." R: "When we have a foster home one of our child was quite mental retardation and he told quite a lot of lies, But all of my other children came back home to us after they left and ran away from other home to live with us. 2 still come home yet, and call us long distance, to see how there Mom and Dad are." (CA, 80-81 "Kids were neglected according to school principal who we had disagreement with are learning disabled child education. Social worker would not investigate further." R: "Social workers wanted everything perfect in large family." (CA, 83)
	Black and Other (N=3)	2-5	Mild	1	"We never heard from Three Rivers Adoption Council." (PA, ?)
		10-13	Moderate	1	"They said that there was such a long waiting list for school age children that they were not accepting application, and that there were never Hispanic sibling groups available, that the only children available had extremely severe disabilities." R: "I think the workers were illinformed and could not see beyond their own caseload and area. Workers were unwilling/unable to deal with placements across agency or state lines." (WA, 77 & 82)
		14-18	Severe	1	"Was because we had a special needs child who was considered terminal and the agency felt we owed our commitment to the child and children we already had." R: "The agency didn't understand our feelings and our lifestyle well enough to know we were ready for more children and could handle more than those we have." (OR, 83)

Table 12E. Reasons Agencies Gave and Respondents Believe Why They Were Rejected for Adoption After Beginning a Homestudy by Married (Other than White) by Race; Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race of Couples	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons for Rejection After Beginning a Homestudy
Black (N=2)	Black and Biracial (N=2)	6-9	Mild	2	"Was not married. I would very much like to adopt a child as a single parent." (FL, 83) ("Living Togehter" - Marital Status) "My first cousin baby was removed from their home we had been told some times the relatives are first choice. We later learned that we would problem have or problem with this child grand daddy became he drinks. we didn't think so. Later we learned some other couple they think was better. this child mother was considered some what retarded and the grand mother stated they never signed any adoption paper for the child to be adopted." R: "Letter before we was expecting to adopt this child. Lady and I was talking and she knew we was expecting to adopt. She told me you watch and you're see what you're expecting you won't get it you're be disappointed. a couple days later we learned some other couples was chosen for the child." (?)
Hispanic (N=1)	Hispanic and Other	10-13	Moderate	1	"No children available." R: "Money." (WY, 78)
Other (N=2)	Black (N=1)	2-5	Mild	1	"They wanted a black couple to adopt the black twins. We are a biracial couple." (MI, 82)
	Black and Other (N=1)	14-18	Severe	1	"I became pregnant with the 1st agency. We didn't live in the 'right' geographic location to adopt black children or other minorities." R: "The agency was fearful of racial problems in our community and didn't think we could handle them." (OR, 83)

Table 12F. Current Homestudy Application Status for Married (Other than White) Respondents who Reported a Homestudy Barrier by Race, Oldest Age, and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider	Currently Planning to Adopt	Adoption Approved Length of Wait			Completed/Not Approved Length of Wait			Waiting for Homestudy Length of Wait			Homestudy Begun/Not Completed Length of Wait		
	N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N
Black Couples (7)													
Black Children (4)													
Age (2-5) (N=1)													
Mild (1)	0												
Age (6-9) (N=3)													
Mild (1)	0												
Moderate (2)	1[a]												
Black and Other (3)													
Age (6-9) (N=2)													
Mild (2)	2			1									1[a]
Age (14-18) (N=1)													
Moderate (1)	1[a]												
Black Couples--Total	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hispanic Couple (1)													
Age (10-13) (N=1)													
Moderate (1)	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Married Couples (15)													
White and Other (9)													
Age (2-5) (N=1)													
Mild (1)	1				1								
Age (6-9) (N=1)													
Mild (1)	1	1											
Age (10-13) (N=2)													
Moderate (2)	2[a]							1					
Age (14-18) (N=5)													
Moderate (4)	3			2									
Severe (1)	0												
Black a/o Other (6)													
Age (2-5) (N=2)													
Mild (2)	1[a]												
Age (6-9) (N=1)													
Moderate (1)	1			1									
Age (10-13) (N=2)													
Mild (1)	1			1									
Moderate (1)	0												

Age (14-18) (N=1) Severe (1)	1[a]															
Other Couples-Total	11	1	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0			
Totals (N=23)	16	1	0	6	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0			

*Believe may not be approved to adopt
[a]Information not available for some respondents

Table13Aa. Barriers to Adoption Reported by White Single Female Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider (N=40)	Adoption Barrier Categories						
	Turned Down N (%)	Exp. Delays N (%)	HS Comp/ No Plac N (%)	Did Not Submit App N (%)	Withdrew Application N (%)	Rejected for Homestudy N (%)	Rejected for Adoption N (%)
White (3)							
Age (6-9) (N=2)							
Moderate (2)	0 (0.0)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (10-13) (N=1)							
Severe (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)
White - Sub-total	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	1 (33.3)	1 (33.3)
White and Other (32)							
Age (2-5) (N=11)							
Mild (7)	2 (28.6)	4 (57.1)	3 (42.9)	4 (57.1)	1 (14.3)	1 (14.3)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (4)	2 (50.0)	1 (25.0)	3 (75.0)	3 (75.0)	1 (25.0)	1 (25.0)	2 (50.0)
Age (6-9) (N=11)							
None (2)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Mild (3)	2 (66.7)	0 (0.0)	2 (66.7)	3 (100)	1 (50.0)	1 (33.3)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (6)	5 (83.3)	3 (50.0)	1 (16.7)	6 (100)	1 (16.7)	3 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (10-13) (N=6)							
Mild (3)	2 (66.7)	2 (66.7)	2 (66.7)	3 (100)	1 (33.3)	0 (0.0)	1 (33.3)
Moderate (2)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
Severe (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (14-18) (N=4)							
Mild (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (3)	0 (0.0)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	3 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
White and other =Subtotal	15 (46.9)	13 (40.6)	15 (46.9)	25 (78.1)	7 (21.9)	9 (28.1)	4 (12.5)
Other (5)							
Age (2-5) (N=3)							
Mild (3)	2 (66.7)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	3 (100)	0 (0.0)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)
Age (10-13) (N=2)							
Moderate (2)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Other = Subtotal	4 (80.0)	2 (40.0)	2 (40.0)	4 (80.0)	0 (0.0)	3 (60.0)	1 (20.0)
Totals (40)	20 (50.0)	17 (42.5)	18 (45.0)	31 (77.5)	8 (20.0)	13 (32.5)	6 (15.0)

Table 13Ab Barriers to Adoption Reported by White Other Female (Divorced, Separated, Widowed) Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider (N-17)	Adoption Barrier Categories						
	Turned Down N (%)	Exp. Delays N (%)	HS Comp./ No Plac. N (%)	Did not Submit Apps. N (%)	Withdrew Application N (%)	Rejected for Homestudy N (%)	Rejected for Adoption N (%)
White (1)							
Age (10-13) (N=1)							
Severe (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
White and Other (12)							
Age (2-5) (N=4)							
Mild (2)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (2)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (6-9) (N=2)							
Moderate (2)	1 (50.0)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (10-13) (N=6)							
Mild (5)	4 (80.0)	1 (20.0)	4 (80.0)	3 (60.0)	1 (20.0)	2 (40.0)	1 (20.0)
Severe (1)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
White and Other - Subtotal	6 (50.0)	5 (41.7)	5 (41.7)	8 (66.7)	2 (16.7)	3 (25.0)	1 (8.3)
Other (3)							
Age (2-5) (N=3)							
None (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Mild (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Other - Sub-total	3 (100)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	3 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (33.3)	0 (0.0)
Totals (N=16)*	10 (62.5)	8 (50.0)	7 (43.8)	12 (75.0)	2 (12.5)	5 (31.3)	1 (8.3)

* One Did Not Respond

Table13Ac. Barriers to Adoption by Female Respondents (Other Than White) Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider	Adoption Barrier Categories						
	Turned Down N (%)	Exp. Delays N (%)	HS Comp./ No Plac. N (%)	Did Not Submit App. N (%)	Withdrew Application N (%)	Rejected for Homestudy N (%)	Rejected for Adoption N (%)
Single Black (7)							
Black Children (4)							
Age (2-5) (N=3)							
None (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Mild (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (6-9) (N=1)							
None (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Black & Other (3)							
Age (6-9) (N=1)							
Mild (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)
Age (10-13) (N=2)							
Mild (2)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)
Total Single Black	3 (42.9)	2 (28.6)	2 (28.6)	5 (71.4)	0 (0.0)	2 (28.6)	1 (14.3)
Single Other (2)							
White a/o Other (2)							
Ages (9-10) (N=2)							
Mild (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Severe (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)
Total Single Other	2 (100)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)
Totals (N=9)	5 (55.6)	4 (44.4)	3 (33.3)	6 (66.7)	0 (0.0)	4 (44.4)	2 (22.2)

Table 13B. Reasons for Not Submitting Applications for Homestudies by Female Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race and Marital Status	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reason(s) Given for not Submitting Applications for Homestudies
Single White (N=32)	White (N=2)	6-9	Moderate	1	"Waiting list for informational meeting too long in . . . Attitude of social worker at informational meeting in . . ." (ME, 82)
		10-13	Severe	1	"Not encouraging when they revealed the facts (e.g. the number and description of children available." (VA, 83, - 2 agencies)
	White and Other (N=25)	2-5	Mild	4	"No available children according to social worker. She offered to do my homestudy. She was very pleasant but recommended International adoption agency for me." (NY, 84) "Would not consider me for a healthy child." (?) "All children were severely retarded." (MA, 81) "I chose another agency that I had more information about and one that was less expensive." (D.C., 83
		2-5	Moderate	3	"Cost factor of update." (MI, 84) "Caseworker stressed uselessness of application, homestudy, etc." (MO, 83) "Cost, type of children available and restricted to couples." (MN, WA, 83)
		6-9	None	1	"I was unable to find an agency willing to place a healthy 5-7 year old with me - a single mother of one adopted child." (83, 15 agencies)
		6-9	Mild	3	"They were very religious affiliated and I didn't fit their 'ideals'." (All over USA, 83) "Cost of adoption." (LA, CA, 82, 83) "I have requested info from many agencies that I did not apply to, for various reasons - costs too high or did not accept single parents, mainly." (?)
		6-9	Moderate	6	"Wanting a child and contacting whomever possible. I did not follow thru on some because the study fees and money were so high (i.e., Columbian refugee was > $3,000). I did not have enough money for some agencies. No homestudy was ever begun and I am 38 years old and single. Money, age, and single are great deterrents." (WA, 82-83) "1) Would not serve singles, 2) told there would be 10-12 year wait 3) would not serve singles 4) not taking applications - too long a waiting list." (IA, 82-84) "1) the wait seemed indefinite (before even beginning a homestudy (2) Agency offered little or no hope to singles." (5 agencies) "They asked for outrageous amounts of money but no definite information or they never gave me the information I requested." (MN, TX, NY, 82) "They told me it was almost impossible for a single person to adopt a child." (IN, 82) "Expense involved, lack of information, several didn't work in Minnesota. One agency in MN didn't work outside the Minneapols-St. Paul metro area. Some agencies didn't work with single people." (MN, TX, NY, WA, 82-83, - 5 agencies)
		10-13	Mild	3	"Agencies wouldn't accept applications from a single parent." (AZ, 82 - 10 agencies) "Expense, rejection because of single status." (D.C., MD, 83 - 8 agencies) "Felt that as a single parent the agency wanted me to accept teenage children - I already had submitted an application and had a homestudy completed with another agency although I had been waiting for a placement with the other agency (and still am)." (NC, 83)
		10-13	Moderate	1	"Finances." (VA, 83)
		14-18	Mild	1	"Cost, length of time before they could begin homestudy, lack of encouragement because I am a single person." (DC, 81-82)

		14-18	Moderate	3	"Didn't have 'cash in advance' for adoption process. I am considering foreign adoption. Costs up to $15,000 quoted to me. I'm now considering artificial insemination which costs $75.00" (CO,83) "Fees were too high." (FL, 82) "Dept. of Social and Health Services told me after I had attended the preadopt meetings in Feb/Mar 81 that they didn't know if they would be able to get around to a homestudy during 1981. It seemed unlikely. Thank heavens for WACAP!!!" (WA, 81)
	Other (N=4)	2-5	Mild	3	"Noted for problems with adoptive children." (IA, 83) "DSS put single person as last priority for homestudy. International agency did not give you choice of country." (MD, 83) "Agencies indicated they did not accept applications from single applicants." ("all parts of U.S., 82-83 - 19 agencies)
		10-13	Moderate	1	"Agency was too far (3 hr. drive one way) for me to travel to weekly meetings." (PA, 83)
Divorced White (N= 12)	White (N=1)	10-13	Severe	1	"Expense of foreign adoptions." (ND, 83)
	White and Other (N=8)	2-5	Moderate	2	"Waiting list for homestudy too long." (NY, 81) "Very impersonal approach; did not work with Latin American placements." (MD, 83)
		6-9	Moderate	2	"Some would not accept a single person; some were extremely vague; others were quite costly. Others did not follow up my letters, calls, etc. and I felt DHS would be less likely to discriminate (OK, TX, OR, CO, IA, WA - 83 - 20 agencies) "I was told Dillon's Children's Services only place with married couples. And the Asociacion Los Pisingos has a waiting list back as far as 1981." (NY, Columbia, 83-84)
		10-13	Mild	3	"Did not feel comfortable with the agency - it seemed more like they were in the 'baby business' than that they were committed to the adoption (including child, birth mother, adoptive family) Also, they really could not place a non-handicapped child with a single parent." (PA, 83) "I was told there was no sense in a single woman's applying. Only two-parent families were encouraged." (NJ, PA, OR, OK, 83) "Agency refused to accept - no children available or did not accept single parents." (?, 79, 6 agencies)
		10-13	Severe	1	"They charged very large fees - usually in excess of $4,000." (D.C., WA, CO, 83)
	Other (N=3)	2-5	None	1	"Too expensive. Would not place age I wanted. Distance too far." (WA, DC, NY, 78)
		2-5	Mild	1	"Children's Home Society does not complete home studies for foreign adoptions." (NC, 83)
		2-5	Moderate	1	"Disinterest a/or resistance &/or refusal to work with single parents (both agencies). I did not apply thru the county because the social workers were clearly trying to discourage applicants." (CA, 83)
Single Hispanic (N=1)	-	-	-	1	"Had to travel to the county." (?)
Single Black (N=5)	Black (N=4)	2-5	None	1	"I was told that a single woman could not adopt an infant." (MI, 83)
		2-5	Mild	1	"I did not find them interested or concerned about my needs as a single black adoptive parent." (CA, 83)

		2-5	Moderate	1	"This was the first time I had considered contacting but the lady that answered my questions was so negative I became discouraged. I am a single parent. I tried again in 1981 with beautiful results." (KY, 78)
		6-9	None	1	"Every time I called about a child, they wanted a two parent family." (MI, 83)
	Black and/or Other (N=1)	6-9	Mild	1	*"Already had a homestudy complete and I was advised I should stick with my own agency." (PA, 84)
Divorced Other (N=1)	White and Other (N=1)	6-9	Severe	1	"Cost, problems with agency." (MD, 82)

*Not a barrier.

Table 13C. Reasons Given for Withdrawing Application to Adopt by Female Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race and Marital Status	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons Given for Withdrawing Applications
Single White (N=8)	White (N=1)	6-9	Moderate	1	"I felt I would not get a placement of a child in any foreseeable future time (I am a single parent). There was discrimination. I later applied with a Foreign program (Mission of Hope) and now have a 7 month old daughter from India." (MA, 82)
	White and Other (N=7)	2-5	Mild	1	"After paying and being promised a child - I was told because I am single they could not help me." (D.C., 83)
		2-5	Moderate	1	"No progress because of being single and availability of younger children and to work for international adoption." (SC, 83)
		6-9	Mild	1	*"I left S.F., CA to go to LA, CA - The agency in SF was local only. When I left LA, CA for Virginia I could no longer deal with LA county." (CA, 82-83)
		6-9	Moderate	1	"Child's caseworker was ill and leaving the agency and the agency was undergoing so many changes that I wasn't able to make arrangements to go to NY." (NY, 83)
		10-13	Mild	1	"I am still waiting - However, I am looking into foreign adoptions now. I feel two years is long enough to wait for a U.S. adoption of older adoption." (NC, 83)
		10-13	Severe	1	"I had not had even one possibility for placement in 2 years. Found great hostility over my being a single parent." (CT, 84)
		14-18	Mild	1	"Because I'd had a visit from 2 brothers as possible adoptions ages 10 & 12; another Penn. agency wanted me for a 15 yr. old boy - I declined the latter but the former fell through." (82)
Divorced White (N=2)	White and Other (N=2)	2-5	Mild	1	*"Because I was told I could adopt Korean children - then told I couldn't. Very upsetting to me." (CA, 83)
		10-13	Mild	1	"I was told I was wasting my time." (NJ, 83)
Single Hispanic (N=1)				1	"Used private method. No guarantee of placement." (MI, 84)

*Not a barrier.

Table 13D. Reasons Agencies Gave and Respondents Believe Why They Were Rejected for a Homestudy Request by Female Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race and Marital Status	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons for Rejection of Request for Homestudy
Single White (N=13)	White (N=1)	10-13	Severe	1	"I was interested in white children and the social worker said that only black children were available." R: "Maybe she was telling me thetruth plus they prefer to place a child with a married couple over a single person and so a single person's chances for adopting a child are very slim." (VA, 83)
	White and Other (N=9)	2-5	Mild	1	"In April 1984, the California Dept. of Social Services refused to even send me an application, their reason was that they continue to experience a backlog in the Intercounty Program." R: "This in direct violation of the Welfare and Institutions Code 16141 which requires that a homestudy be completed within 12 mo. of date of application . . ." (CA, 84)
		2-5	Moderate	1	"My age (30); my marital status (single); my request for young child or baby with no or mild to moderate physical handicaps. Agency stated these children only went to married couples." R: "Prejudice against single, working, parent adopting a baby." (MO, 83)
		6-9	None	1	"A lot of the agencies would not work with single parents and the waiting lists are 4-5 years." (83) ("Alot" of agencies)
		6-9	Mild	1	"Great delay in getting thru red tape. Basically one of time. They wouldn't take me when I wanted." R: "They were so over worked and had a long waiting list of earlier applicants longer than 1 year on waiting list." (AR, 83)
		6-9	Moderate	3	"Being single, too long a waiting list, not taking applications. Also told I could have child older than 9. 3 International Agencies did not perform home studies in Iowa. 1 International Agency would not serve singles." R: "I feel that there is much disorganization and discrimination within such organizations." (IA, 82-84) "Only by agencies which wouldnot deal with singles." (?) "Single, no workers or license in Wyoming." ("All over country," 81-82) (5-8 agencies)
		10-13	Moderate	1	"I was not formally rejected. I simply heard nothing from them for 3½years!" R: "because I was single." (CA, 80)
		14-18	Mild	1	"None - I'd been a foster parent for 7 years (30 foster children) but went over a supervisor's head once and got black balled by him when I wanted to pursue adoption." (MD, 83)
	Other (N=3)	2-5	Mild	2	"Single, refused to work with singles." (MD, 83) "Waiting list was too long. Were only doing homestudies for persons wanting boys. Told to reapply in 6 months or a year." (GA, 84)
		10-13	Moderate	1	"Single and working. Said they did not have very many children (State agency)" (CA, 81)
Divorced White (N=5)	White (N=1)	10-13	Severe	1	"Marital status-single." (OK, 83; 4 agencies)
	White and Other (N=3)	2-5	Mild	1	"1st were no longer doing single parents. 2nd agency went out of business." (DC, 83)
		10-13	Mild	2	"Backlog, not enough social workers, none on Cape for single parents, etc." R: "Cape Cod

					out of business area. Don't do single parents." (MA, 79-84; 5 agencies) "No children available to single parents. 2) the other agency has not yet (since Oct. 83) sent me an application! I called many times and was told it was in the mail." R: "Because I'm single 2) Because if adoptable children are adopted, a lot of caseworkers, secretaries, etc. will be without jobs." (PA, 83-84)
	Other (N=1)	2-5	Moderate	1	"Staffing. All thru 1983 I was told there was a long waiting list. Suddenly, in early 84, I was invited to apply for a homestudy and was told it would be completed in just a few months. Two months later I got a letter telling me to forget it." R: "This was an incredibly frustrating and disappointing experience and was almost disastrous as I was ready to tell the private agency I'd applied to (which costs $2700 more) that I did not need their services." (CA, 84
Single Black (N=2)	Black and Other (N=2)	10-13	Mild	2	"Because of past problems with my 16 years old." (PA, 84) "Too young; no permanent job; no apt; no extended family in NYC; no male companion; no regular religious workshops; no savings acct; no life insurance; had not discussed adoption plans with family or friends; did not think children should be told they were adopted if adopted in infancy." R: "For above reasons plus I did not want to participate in monthly at agency discussion groups after adoption was finalized; refused financial assistance from agency." (NY, 75-81; 10 agencies)
Single Hispanic (N=1)	-	-	-	1	"Single" (?, 5 agencies)
Widowed Other (N=1)	White	10-13	Mild	1	"They didn t think I should change my lifestyle." R: "I didn't want to consider black kids." (CO, 82)
Divorced Other (N=1)	White and Other (N=1)	6-9	Severe	1	"Too far away; (2) trouble maker; (3) no children available." R: "Single parent, too many kids, too many special needs kids, advocate (threatening to social workers), too poor, disabled (i.e., me), "different life style! etc." (MD, ? - 3 agencies)

Table 13E. Reasons Agencies Gave and Respondents Believe Why They were Rejected for Adoption After Beginning a Homestudy by Female Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and HIghest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race and Marital Status	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons for Rejection After Beginning a Homestudy
Single White (N=6)	White (N=1)	10-13	Severe	1	"The social worker was not convinced that I would have the amount of interest needed to take care of a child coming from the type of background she was aware of." R: "Because there was no evidence in my past of interest and experience in working with children and because she could not get a hold of the records of some sessions between a psychiatrist and me back in 1972 because the records were destroyed." (VA, 83)
	White and Other (N=4)	2-5	Moderate	2	*"Change in policy with Holtin S. Korea - No longer accepting single applicants." (SC, 83) "Prefer a 2 parent family even when a single was put on the sheet to adopt. Maybe its because I live on $56.67 wkly and they think I can't afford to parent a child but I can. because I didn't say in a listing manor what type of handicap I'd accept." (NY, MN; 84; 176 agencies)
		10-13	Mild	1	"Wanted a two-parent family." (AZ, 83)
		10-13	Moderate	1	"Finances." (DC, 83)
	Other (N=1)	2-5	Mild	1	"I was 29 and their age limit was 30. I was invited to reapply in 6 months when I turned 30." R: "I was too far away to be convenient. They knew my age and still accepted a non-refundable deposit." (WA, 82)
Divorced White (N=1)	White and Other (N=1)	10-13	Mild	1	"Case worker had negative attitude about me regarding adopting more children at my age." (MA, 83) "They said they found a more suitable family in their own county for the child, a girl of 5 who might have a brother of 3 to place in about 2 years." R: "I think their reason is true. Also because there is no father figure here." (NY, 83)
Single Black (N=1)	Black and Other (N=1)	6-9	Mild	1	"Agency said they found local families. All local families were two parent." R: "Children were given to two parent families or they would not allow the children to leave the state. In Mass, the children I applied for had serious emotional problems and I could not accept them. If Mass was counted number of rejections would be 5." (MA, 83)
Divorced Other (N=1)	White and Other (N=1)	6-9	Severe	1	"Too far away." (DC, ?)

*Not a barrier.

Table 13Fa. Current Homestudy Application Status for White Single Female Respondents who Reported a Homestudy Barrier by Race, Oldest Age, and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider	Currently Planning to Adopt	Adoption Approved Length of Wait			Completed/Not Approved Length of Wait			Waiting for Homestudy Length of Wait			Homestudy Begun/Not Completed Length of Wait		
	N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N
White (3)													
Age (6-9) (N=2)													
Moderate (2)	1								1				
Age (10-13) (N=1)													
Severe (1)	0												
White-Subtotal	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
White and Other (32)													
Age (2-5) (N=11)													
Mild (7)	7	1	1	2				1		1*	1		
Moderate (4)	4[a]	1		2									
Age (6-9) (N=11)													
None (2)	1[a]												
Mild (3)	3[a]	1		1									
Moderate (6)	3[a]			1									
Age (10-13) (N=6)													
Mild (3)	3[a]			2									
Moderate (2)	2[a]												
Severe (1)	1		1										
Age (14-18) (N=4)													
Mild (1)	1			1									
Moderate (3)	2[a]			1									
White and Other-Subtotal	27	3	2	10	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Other (5)													
Age (2-5) (N=3)													
Mild (3)	3	1			1				1				
Age (10-13) (N=2)													
Moderate (2)	2	1									1		
Other-Subtotal	5	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Totals (40)	33	5	2	10	1	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	0

*Believe might not be approved to adopt
[a]Information not available for some respondents

Table 13Fb. Current Homestudy Application Status for White Other Female (Divorced, Separated, Widowed) Respondents who Reported a Homestudy Barrier by Race, Oldest Age, and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider	Currently Planning to Adopt	Adoption Approved Length of Wait			Completed/Not Approved Length of Wait			Waiting for Homestudy Length of Wait			Homestudy Begun/Not Completed Length of Wait		
	N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N
White (1)													
Age (10-13) (N=1)													
Severe (1)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
White and Other (12)													
Age (2-5) (N=4)													
Mild (2)	2						1*				1		
Moderate (2)	1			1									
Age (6-9) (N=2)													
Moderate (2)	2							1*					1*
Age (10-13) (N=6)													
Mild (5)	5[a]	2		1									1*
Severe (1)	0												
White and Other-Subtotal	10	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
Other (3)													
Age (2-5) (N=3)													
None (1)	1	1											
Mild (1)	1									1			
Moderate (1)	1				1								
Other-Subtotal	3	1			1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Totals (N=16)**	14	4	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2

*Believe might not be approved to adopt
**One did not respond
[a]Information not available for some respondents

Table 13Fc. Current Homestudy Application Status for Female Respondents (Other Than White) Who Reported a Homestudy Barrier by Race, Oldest Age, and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider	Currently Planning to Adopt	Adoption Approved Length of Wait			Completed/Not Approved Length of Wait			Waiting for Homestudy Length of Wait			Homestudy Begun/Not Completed Length of Wait		
		0-3	4-6	7 or more	0-3	4-6	7 or more	0-3	4-6	7 or more	0-3	4-6	7 or more
	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Single Black (7)													
Black Children (4)													
Age (2-5) (N=3)													
None (1)	1			1									
Mild (1)	0												
Moderate (1)	1										1		
Age (6-9) (N=1)													
None (1)	1[a]												
Black & Others (3)													
Age (6-9) (N=2)													
Mild (1)	1		1										
Age (10-13) (N=2)													
Mild (2)	0												
Total Single Black	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Single Other (2)													
White a/o Other (2)													
Ages (9-10) (N=2)													
Mild (1)	1			1									
Severe (1)	0												
Total Single Other	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals (N=9)	5	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

[a]Information not available

Table 14A. Barriers to Adoption by Male Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider	Adoption Barrier Categories						
	Turned Down N (%)	Exp. Delays N (%)	HS Comp./ No Plac. N (%)	Did Not Submit App. N (%)	Withdrew Application N (%)	Rejected for Homestudy N (%)	Rejected for Adoption N (%)
Single White (9)							
White a/o Other (9)							
Age (6-9) (N-3)							
Mild (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (2)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	1 (0.0)	2 (100)	0 (0.0)
Age (10-13) (N=3)							
Moderate (2)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
Severe (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Age (14-18) (N=3)							
Moderate (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Severe (2)	2 (100)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
Total - Single White	7 (77.8)	4 (44.4)	4 (44.4)	4 (44.4)	1 (11.1)	6 (66.7)	2 (22.2)
Divorced White (5)							
White a/o Other (5)							
Age (8) (N=1)							
Moderate (1)	1 (100)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Age (13-15) (N=4)							
Mild (1)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)
Moderate (3)	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)	0 (0.0)	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)	0 (0.0)	1 (33.3)
Total - Divorced White	3 (60.0)	3 (60.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (40.0)	2 (40.0)	1 (20.0)	1 (20.0)
Single Black (1)							
Black (1)							
Mild (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Divorced Black (1)							
Black (1)							
Moderate (1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	1 (100)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Total - Black	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Totals (16)	10 (62.5)	7 (43.8)	5 (31.3)	7 (43.8)	4 (25.0)	7 (43.8)	3 (18.8)

Table 14B. Reasons Given for Not Submitting Applications for Homestudies by Male Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race and Marital Status	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons Given for Not Submitting Applications for Homestudies
Single White (N=4)	White and Other (N=4)	6-9	Moderate	1	"They do not place with singles! They'll take your application, but they won't place with you." (AR, 81-84, 4 agencies)
		10-13	Moderate	1	"Because they were not willing to work with a single person, and because I am on Social Security Disability." (D.C., 83)
		14-18	Moderate	1	"We called every number that I read or heard but being single was my problem. I've run a foster home for 10 years though 'good byes' are getting to me. I hate parting with them. (?)
		14-18	Severe	1	"Needed a homestudy first." ("Many", 82-83; 5 agencies)
Divorced White (N=2)	White and Other (N=2)	6-9	Moderate	1	"I was at the time interested in adopting an out of state child. Local HRS told me I could not get a homestudy done for an out of state adoption so I went to a private agency." (FL, 83)
		14-18	Moderate	1	"Their classes required anywhere from a 4 to 8 hours round trip car ride." (PA, 83-84; 4 agencies)
Single Black (N=1)	Black (N=1)	10-13	Mild	1	"Present living situation - only one bedroom, insufficient space for a child with one bedroom." (PA, 84)

Table 14C. Reasons Given for Withdrawing Applications to Adopt by Male Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race and Marital Status	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons Given for Withdrawing Applications
Single White (N=1)	White and Other (N=1)	6-9	Moderate	1	"Eventually got married and had our own baby." (CO, 83)
Divorced White (N=2)	White and Other (N=2)	14-18	Moderate	2	"Got the runaround, after 1 year, homestudy was still not completed and I had adopted before." (OH, 82-83) "Because I had to miss two classes due to weather plus the personality of the Director was poor and we were at opposite poles on matters of importance to me." (PA, 84)
Divorced Black (N=1)	Black (N=1)	10-13	Moderate	1	"They seem to have lost my application after waiting for 2 years." (CN, 82)

Table 14D. Reasons Agencies Gave and Respondents Believe Why They Were Rejected for a Homestudy Request by Male Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race and Marital Status	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons for Rejection of Request for Homestudy
Single White (N=6)	White and Other (N=6)	6-9	Mild	1	"I have a disability, spinal cerebellus degeneration which makes it difficult to find work and social security payments are not enough and that there would be no increase in payment or medical." (ID, 83)
		6-9	Moderate	2	"I was told I would not be considered for a homestudy." R: "I would have been a single father." (CO, 80-81; 6 agencies) " No Singles!" R: "Ignorance." (AR, 81-84; 2 agencies)
		10-13	Moderate	1	"Once because they had no children available that fit my desire and again later because they do not do foreign studies." R: They just don't want to be bothered." (OH, 84; 2 agencies)
		10-13	Severe	1	"Low income." (IL, 82)
		14-18	Severe	1	"Because I am an American citizen." R: "Because of being an American, and wanting to adopt Asian." (England, 83)
Divorced White (N=1)	White and Other (N=1)	14-18	Mild	1	"Stated that I was not compatible with child I requested - after they required a psychological test at a $300 cost to me." R: "I was a single parent - also I questioned their delays." (CO, 82)

Table 14E. Reasons Agencies Gave and Respondents Believe Why They were Rejected for Adoption After Beginning a Homestudy by Male Respondents by Race, Oldest Age and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Race and Marital Status	Race of Child	Oldest Age	Highest Disability	Number	Reasons for Rejection After Beginning a Homestudy
Single White (N=2)	White and Other (N=2)	10-13	Moderate	1	"No single males considered." (El Salvador, 84)
		14-18	Severe	1	"This agency had completed my study and also approved it. When a child was located they changed their mind and would not work with me anymore." R: "Because the worker made a mistake and had to cover it up." (MI, 83)
Divorced White (N=1)	White (N=1)	14-18	Moderate	1	"Child needed 2 parent household." (OH, 82)

Table 14F. Current Homestudy Application Status for Male Respondents Who Reported a Homestudy Barrier by Race, Oldest Age, and Highest Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child

Oldest Age and Highest Disability by Race Willing to Consider	Currently Planning to Adopt N	Adoption Approved Length of Wait 0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	Completed/Not Approved Length of Wait 0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	Waiting for Homestudy Length of Wait 0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N	Homestudy Begun/Not Completed Length of Wait 0-3 N	4-6 N	7 or more N
Single White (9)													
White a/o Other (9)													
Age (6-9) (N=3)													
Mild (1)	1									1*			
Moderate (2)	1			1									
Age (10-13) (N=3)													
Moderate (2)	2									1*	1		
Severe (1)	1[a]												
Age (14-18) (N=3)													
Moderate (1)	1			1									
Severe (2)	2[a]										1		
Total - Single White	8	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
Divorced White (5)													
White a/o Other (5)													
Age (8) (N=1)													
Moderate (1)	1[a]												
Age (13-15) (N=4)													
Mild (1)	0												
Moderate (3)	3[a]												1
Total-Divorced White	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Single Black (1)													
Black (10-13) (N=1)													
Mild (1)	1[a]												
Divorced Black (1)													
Black (10-13) (N=1)													
Moderate (1)	1			1									
Total-Black	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals (16)	14	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	1

*Believe might not be approved to adopt.

[a]Information not available

Table 15. Characteristics of Respondents and Children Sought for Respondents Who Reported No Barriers In Obtaining Approved Homestudies

Marital Status by Race (N=87)*	Race/Ethnicity of Child Sought															
	Black		Hispanic		White		Hispanic or White		Foreign Born		Any Race		Hisp/White or Foreign		Black or Biracial		Other	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Married/Living Together (54)																		
Black (9)+	4	(50.0)									1	(12.5)			3	(37.5)		
Hispanic (4)			4	(100)														
White (39)+	1	(2.7)	1	(2.7)	17	(45.9)	4	(10.8)	3	(8.1)	3	(8.1)	3	(8.1)			5	(13.5)
Other (2)											1	(50.0)					1	(50.0)
Single Female (13)																		
Black (4)	3	(75.0)													1	(25.0)		
Hispanic (0)																		
White (9)			1	(11.1)	2	(22.2)	1	(11.1)					2	(22.2)			3	(33.3)
Other (0)																		
Other Female (9)																		
Black (5)	3	(60.0)													1	(20.0)	1	(20.0)
Hispanic (0)																		
White (3)					1	(33.3)			2	(66.7)								
Other (1)																	1	(100)
Single Male (6)																		
Black (0)																		
Hispanic (0)																		
White (6)+					1	(33.3)					1	(33.3)					1	(33.3)
Other (0)																		
Totals (87)+	11	(14.5)	6	(7.9)	21	(27.6)	5	(6.6)	5	(6.6)	6	(7.9)	5	(6.6)	5	(6.6)	12	(15.8)

Table 15 (Continued)

Oldest Age of Child Considered Adopting					Highest Level of Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child			
0 - 1	2 - 5	6 - 9	10 - 13	14 - 18	None	Mild	Moderate	Severe
N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)
			2 (25.0)		2 (25.0)	1 (12.5)	5 (62.5)	
2 (25.0)	2 (25.0)	2 (25.0)	4 (100)		1 (25.0)	2 (50.0)	1 (25.0)	
4 (11.1)	4 (11.1)	7 (19.4)	14 (38.9)	7 (19.4)	5 (14.3)	11 (31.4)	13 (37.1)	6 (17.1)
			1 (100)				1 (100)	
	1 (25.0)	3 (75.0)				3 (75.0)		1 (25.0)
1 (11.1)	3 (33.3)	3 (33.3)	2 (22.2)		1 (11.1)	3 (33.3)	5 (55.5)	
1 (20.0)	3 (60.0)		1 (20.0)					
	1 (33.3)	1 (100)	1 (33.3)	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	1 (100)	
		1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)			2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)	
8 (10.8)	14 (18.9)	17 (23.0)	27 (36.5)	8 (10.8)	11 (16.2)	23 (33.8)	27 (39.7)	7 (10.3)

Table 16. Characteristics of Respondents (Applicants to Adopt) and Type of Children Sought for Respondents Approved or Believe Will be Approved to Adopt (N=123)

Marital Status by Race (N=123)	Race/Ethnicity of Child Sought																	
	Black		Hispanic		White		Hispanic or White		Foreign Born		Any Race		Hisp, White or foreign		Black or Biracial		Other	
	N	%	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Married/ Lvg. Together (77)																		
Black (12)	11	(91.7)													1	(8.3)		
Hispanic (1)			1	(100)														
White (62)					32	(51.6)	10	(16.1)	1	(1.6)	5	(8.1)	5	(8.1)				
Other (2)	1	(50.0)					1	(50.0)										
Single Female (26)																		
Black (9)	6	(66.7)													2	(22.2)	1	(11.1)
Hispanic (0)																		
White (17)					4	(23.5)			5	(29.4)	4	(23.5)	3	(17.6)				
Other (0)																		
Other Female (12)																		
Black (6)	5	(83.3)													1	(16.7)		
Hispanic (1)																	1	(100)
White (4)							1	(25.0)					2	(75.0)				
Other (1)																	1	(100)
Single Male (7)																		
Black																		
Hispanic																		
White (7)					5	(71.4)	2	(28.6)										
Other																		
Other Male (1)																		
Black (0)																		
Hispanic (0)																		
White (1)							1	(100)										
Other (0)																		
Totals	22	(17.9)	2	(1.6)	41	(33.3)	15	(12.2)	6	(4.9)	9	(7.3)	11	(8.9)	4	(3.3)	13	(10.6)

Table 16 (Continued)

Oldest Age of Child Considered Adopting					Highest Level of Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child				Adoption Approved Length of Wait		
0 - 1	2 - 5	6 - 9	10 - 13	14 - 18	None	Mild	Moderate	Severe	0 - 3	4 - 6	7 or more
N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N %	N %	N %	N %	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)
1 (9.1)	6 (54.5)	2 (18.2)	2 (18.2)		5 (50.0)	5 (50.0)			3 (25.0)	3 (25.0)	3 (25.0)
		1 (100)				1 (100)			1 (100)		
	14 (22.6)	21 (33.9)	20 (32.3)	7 (11.3)	3 (4.8)	25 (40.3)	32 (51.6)	2 (3.2)	7 (11.9)	3 (5.1)	34 (57.6)
	2 (100)					2 (100)					2 (100)
1 (11.1)	1 (11.1)	4 (44.4)	3 (33.3)		2 (22.2)	6 (66.7)	1 (11.1)		3 (37.5)		4 (50.0)
2 (11.8)	5 (29.4)	6 (35.3)	4 (23.5)			9 (52.9)	6 (40.0)	2 (11.8)	5 (29.4)	1 (5.9)	7 (41.2)
	2 (33.3)	4 (66.7)			3 (50.0)	2 (33.3)	1 (16.7)		1 (16.7)	3 (50.0)	2 (33.3)
			1 (100)			1 (100)					1 (100)
		1 (25.0)	3 (75.0)				4 (100)		1 (25.0)		1 (25.0)
		1 (14.3)	3 (42.9)	3 (42.9)		5 (71.4)	1 (14.3)	1 (14.3)	1 (14.3)		4 (57.1)
			1 (100)				1 (100)				
4 (3.3)	30 (24.8)	40 (32.8)	37 (30.3)	11 (9.0)	13 (10.7)	57 (47.1)	46 (38.0)	5 (4.1)	22 (18.5)	10 (8.4)	58 (48.7)

Table17. Characteristics of Respondents (Applicants to Adopt) and Children Sought for Respondents Who Believe They Will Not or Don't Know If They Will Get An Approved Homestudy (N=25)

Marital Status by Race (N=25)	Race/Ethnicity of Child Sought										Oldest Age of Child Considered Adopting				
	Black N %	Hispanic N %	White N %	Hispanic or White N %	Foreign Born N %	Any Race N %	Hisp., White or Foreign N %	Black or Biracial N %	Other N %		0-1 N %	2-5 N %	6-9 N %	10-13 N %	14-18 N %
Married (18)															
Black (3)								2 (66.7)	1(33.3)		1(33.3)	2(66.7)			
Hispanic (0)															
White (12)			8 (66.7)			1 (8.3)	2 (16.7)		1 (8.3)		1 (8.3)	4(33.3)	1 (8.3)	3 (25.0)	3 (25.0)
Other (3)					1 (33.3)				2(66.7)			1(33.3)	1(33.3)	1 (33.3)	
Single Female (4)															
Black (1)	1 (100)											1 (100)			
Hispanic (0)															
White (3)			1 (33.3)		1 (33.3)		1 (33.3)						3 (100)		
Other (0)															
Other Female (2)															
Black (1)	1 (100)														1 (100)
Hispanic (0)															
White (1)						1 (100)									1 (100)
Other (0)															
Single Male (1)															
Black (0)															
Hispanic (0)															
White (0)															
Other (1)									1(100)						1 (100)
Totals (25)	2 (8.0)	0 (0.0)	9 (36.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (8.0)	2 (8.0)	3 (12.0)	2 (8.0)	5(20.0)		2 (8.0)	8 (32.0)	5(20.0)	4(16.0)	6 (24.0)

Table 17 (Continued)

Highest Level of Disability Willing to Consider in Adopting a Child				Adoption Approved Length of Wait			Completed but not Approved Length of Wait		
None	Mild	Moderate	Severe	0-3	4-6	7 or more	0-3	4-6	7 or more
N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)
1 (33.3)		2 (66.7)							
2 (16.7)	7 (58.3)	3 (25.0)							
2 (66.7)	1 (33.3)								
1 (100)									
1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)							1 (33.3)	
	1 (100)								
			1 (100)						
	1 (100)								
7 (28.0)	12(48.0)	5 (20.0)	1 (4.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (5.0)	0 (0.0)

Table 17 (Continued)

Waiting for Homestudy						Homestudy begun/Not Completed					
						Length of Time					
0 - 3		4 - 6		7 or more		0 - 3		4 - 6		7 or more	
N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
1	(33.3)			2	(66.7)						
		3	(37.5)	5	(62.5)						
2	(66.7)			1	(33.3)						
1	(100)										
		1	(33.3)	1	(33.3)						
				1	(100)						
		1	(100)								
4	(20.0)	5	(25.0)	10	(50.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)

A

NORTH AMERICAN COUNCIL
ON
ADOPTABLE CHILDREN (NACAC)
1346 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Suite 229
Washington D.C. 20036
(202) 466-7570

N|A|E National Adoption Exchange
1218 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 925-0200

November 30, 1983

Dear Friend of Children:

We need your help. NACAC and the National Adoption Exchange are working together to gather information about barriers which prevent children from being adopted. We are particularly concerned about the problems many families experience when they try to obtain a homestudy. These problems can be a serious barrier to the placement of waiting children, yet no data exists on the extent of the problem. Only you can tell us what happens when prospective parents try to get a homestudy in order to adopt the children who are now waiting. These include children who are older, have physical disabilities, are emotionally troubled, or are mentally retarded. Many are Black or Hispanic. Some are brothers and sisters who need a home together.

If you have been turned down or turned away by one or more agencies in your efforts to get a homestudy completed, we ask you to fill out this survey. If you are experiencing delays in getting a homestudy or having it completed, please also fill out this survey. Feel free to share this survey with others who have had similar problems in trying to adopt in the past few years. We need responses from as many people as we can reach and from all parts of the country. Your answers will be confidential. No names will ever be used in any way. The completed survey should be returned to Dr. Jim McCullagh, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614. Please take the time to answer our questions today.

Thank you for your participation. NACAC and the National Adoption Exchange are committed to helping bring children and families together through adoption. Please contact us if you need adoption assistance or information.

Sincerely,

Laurie Flynn
Executive Director
NACAC

Marlene Piasecki
Director
National Adoption Exchange

P.S.: If you need extra copies call Dr. Jim McCullagh at (319) 273-2399 or write to the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614.

Q-1. Have you ever been turned down or turned away by one or more agencies in an effort to get a homestudy completed? (Circle number)

1 YES

2 NO

Q-2. Are you experiencing delays in getting a homestudy or having it completed? (Circle number)

1 YES

2 NO

Q-3. Have you completed a homestudy but have not yet had a placement? (Circle number)

1 YES

2 NO

IN THIS SECTION, PLEASE TELL US ABOUT THE CHILDREN YOU ARE CONSIDERING ADOPTING OR HAVE CONSIDERED ADOPTING.

Q-4. Preferred sex of child: Male ____ Female ____ Either ____

Q-5. How many children would (had) you consider(ed) adopting: 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 ___ or more ___

Q-6. Please write in the youngest and oldest ages of a child you would (had) consider(ed) adopting:

Youngest _____ Oldest _____

Q-7. What is the ethnic/racial background of the children you are seeking?

Black ____ Hispanic ____ White ____ Other (Please specify) _____

Q-8. Some children have one or more disabilities that require special care. Please check (✓) below the level of disability, if any, you are willing to consider in adopting a child.

MENTAL RETARDATION: None____ Mild____ Moderate____ Severe____

LEARNING DISABILITIES: None____ Mild____ Moderate____ Severe____

EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS: None____ Mild____ Moderate____ Severe____

PHYSICAL DISABILITIES: None____ Mild____ Moderate____ Severe____

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES AND SOME PRIVATE CHILD PLACING AGENCIES COMPLETE ADOPTION HOMESTUDIES. PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCES WITH AGENCIES WHICH OFFER HOMESTUDY SERVICES.

Q-9. Have you ever contacted an agency but did not follow up by submitting an application? (Circle number. If YES, please provide additional information requested)

1 YES. Did not submit application(s) to the following number of agencies:

A) NUMBER____ CITY, STATE____ YEAR____

B) What were the reason(s) for your decision?____

2 NO

Q-10. Have you ever withdrawn your application to adopt a child? (Circle number. If YES, provide additional information requested)

1 YES. Withdrew my application from the following number of agencies:

A) NUMBER:____ CITY, STATE____ YEAR____

B) What were the reason(s) for withdrawing your application?____

2 NO

Q-11. Has your request for an adoption homestudy ever been rejected? (Circle number. If YES, provide additional information requested)

1 YES. The following number of agencies rejected my request for a homestudy:

A) NUMBER____ CITY, STATE____ YEAR____

B) Reason(s) agency(ies) gave____

C) Why do you think you were rejected for a homestudy?____

2 NO

Q-12. After beginning a homestudy have you ever been rejected for adoption? (Circle number. If YES, provide additional information requested)

1 YES. The following number of agencies rejected me for adoption:

A) NUMBER:____ CITY, STATE____ YEAR____

B) Reason(s) agency(ies) gave:____

Q-12 (continued)

C) Why do you think you were rejected for adoption?: _____

_____

_____

2 NO

Q-13. Are you currently applying or planning to adopt? (Circle number)

1 YES

2 NO—What were the reason(s) for your decision?: _____

_____

_____

IF YOU CURRENTLY HAVE A HOMESTUDY APPLICATION PENDING OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR ADOPTION AND ARE AWAITING A PLACEMENT, PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION, OTHERWISE GO TO Q-24.

Q-14. When did you first contact the agency?: Month, if known _____ Year _____

Q-15. When did you submit an application?: Month, if known _____ Year _____

Q-16. Please indicate the City and State of the agency referred to in Q-14 and Q-15:

CITY, STATE: _____

Q-17. Are you now awaiting a homestudy? (Circle number)

1 YES—a) How long have you been waiting for a homestudy?: Months _____

b) If you have been waiting longer than 3 months, what reason(s) were you given for the delay?

_____

_____

_____

c) Why do you think there has been a delay?: _____

_____

_____

2 NO

Q-18. Do you think you are going to get a homestudy? (Circle number)

1 YES

2 NO

3 DON'T KNOW

Q-19. If you think you are not or don't know if you are going to get a homestudy, please tell us why you feel this way.

_____

_____

_____

Q-20. Have you begun an adoption homestudy? (Circle number)

1 YES—When did the homestudy begin?: Month, if known _____ Year _____

2 NO

Q-21. Has the adoption homestudy been completed? (Circle number)

1 YES—When completed?: Month, if known _____ Year _____

2 NO—How soon do you think it will be completed?: Months _____ Don't know _____

Q-22. Was there a fee for obtaining the homestudy? (Circle number)

1 YES—Amount you paid:_____ How much was the fee?: _____

2 NO

Q-23. Were you approved for adoption? (Circle number)

1 YES—When approved? Month, if known _____ Year _____

2 NO—When not approved: Month, if known _____ Year _____

3 PENDING—a) When do you think a decision will be made?: Months _____

b) Do you expect to be approved to adopt? _____

c) If you don't know or think you will not be approved to adopt, please tell us why you think so:

_____

_____

_____

FINALLY, IN THIS SECTION, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW JUST A LITTLE MORE ABOUT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY DURING THE PERIOD YOU APPLIED TO ADOPT.

WE WILL GROUP ANSWERS. NO INDIVIDUALS CAN BE IDENTIFIED FROM THIS METHOD. IF YOU ARE A MARRIED COUPLE, PLEASE ANSWER FOR BOTH MALE AND FEMALE. IF SINGLE, ANSWER FOR CORRECT SEX.

Q-24. Please tell us about your martial status during the period you applied to adopt. (Circle numbers)

MARITAL STATUS	MALE	FEMALE
SINGLE, NEVER MARRIED	1	1
LIVING TOGETHER	2	2
MARRIED	3	3
DIVORCED	4	4
SEPARATED	5	5
WIDOWED	6	6

Q-25. What was your age during the period you applied to adopt?

MALE	FEMALE
_____ Age in Years	_____ Age in Years

Q-26. What is your ethnic/racial background? (Circle numbers)

	MALE	FEMALE
Black	1	1
Hispanic	2	2
White	3	3
Other (Please specify)	4 _____	4 _____

Q-27. What was your approximate annual family income from all sources, before taxes, during the year you applied to adopt? (Circle number)

LESS THAN $5,000 1	$20,000 - $24,999 5
$5,000 - $9,9999 2	$25,000 - $29,999 6
$10,000 - $14,999 3	$30,000 - $39,999 7
$15,000 - $19,999 4	$40,000 OR MORE 8

Q-28. **Please tell us about the number of children living in your home during the period you applied to adopt.**

NUMBER OF CHILDREN

NONE ..... _____
NUMBER OF BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN ..... _____
NUMBER OF ADOPTED CHILDREN ..... _____
NUMBER OF FOSTER CHILDREN ..... _____
NUMBER OF OTHER CHILDREN ..... _____

Q-29. In what city and state did you live during the period you applied to adopt?

_____
CITY/TOWN, STATE

Q-30. Are you currently or have you ever been a member of an adoptive and/or foster parent organization? (Circle number)

1 YES—Name of group(s): _____ FROM: _____ TO: _____
2 NO

Q-31. Were you foster parents when you tried to adopt? (Circle number)

1 YES
2 NO

Q-32. If you would like to receive additional information about NACAC (North Amerian Council on Adoptable Children) please check below:

_____ Adoption in America - HELP DIRECTORY
_____ Complimentary copy of Adoptalk (NACAC's newsletter on adoption)
_____ List of books and other resources available through NACAC
_____ Name of adoptive parent group in your area

Q-33. ADOPTION EXCHANGES work to bring together children needing adoptive homes and families who want to adopt the waiting children. The waiting children are older, or handicapped, or sibling groups who need to be adopted together and include black, hispanic, white and other children. Exchanges do not place children directly; they serve as referral points for adoption workers and prospective parents. The NATIONAL ADOPTION EXCHANGE serves the United States.

If you would like more information about services provided by the NATIONAL ADOPTION EXCHANGE please check below.

_____ Yes, please send information about the NATIONAL ADOPTION EXCHANGE.

Q-34. Please complete the following if you would like information from NACAC or the NATIONAL ADOPTION EXCHANGE.

Name _____ Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

WE APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS IN COMPLETING THIS SURVEY. WILL YOU KINDLY FOLD THIS FORM AND TAPE IT CLOSED WITH THE MAILING ADDRESS ON THE OUTSIDE.

Marlene Piasecki
National Adoption Exchange

Laurie Flynn
NACAC

First Class
Mail

No. 21232

Dr. Jim McCullagh
University of Northern Iowa
Department of Social Work
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614

return address:

_____

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First
Class
Postage
Required

Dr. Jim McCullagh
University of Northern Iowa
Department of Social Work
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614

First Class
Mail